

## Rees threatens to expose secret evidence

# Labour push for inquiry on MI5 'plot'

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

New controversy was injected into the Peter Wright affair last night by Mr. Wright's former Labour Home Secretary, when he warned the Government that he intended to "get to the root" of allegations of an MI5 plot to destabilize the Harold Wilson Government.

He disclosed that, contrary to suggestions by ministers, the last Labour government did not investigate and dispose of claims of such a conspiracy.

His surprise intervention came in the Commons after Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, confirmed the Government's decision to appeal against the Australian court ruling that the memoirs of Mr. Wright, the former MI5 officer, can be published and voiced his confidence that it had a "better than even chance of success."

Mr. Rees demanded an inquiry into allegations of a plot by MI5 officers to destabilize the Wilson government which were contained in the Wright book but dealt with in secret in the Australian case at the British government's request.

The inquiry should also cover other allegations of an attempt to undermine the previous Heath Government because of its policy on Northern Ireland.

Outside the chamber Mr. Rees threatened to expose the Wright evidence in the Commons unless the Government acceded to the inquiry, for which he offered to make available his own ministerial papers as Home Secretary.

When the repeated allegations of a plot against the Wilson government have been raised, ministers have regularly referred to a statement by Mr. James Callaghan, the former Labour Prime Minister in August 1977.

Mr. Callaghan said in the statement that after a detailed inquiry he was satisfied that allegations about the security services did not constitute grounds for a lack of confidence in their competence or impartiality.

It was when Sir Michael twice referred to that statement yesterday that Mr. Rees was stung into action. He told surprised MPs that the inquiry referred to in the statement did not cover the allegations made by Mr. Wright in his book.

Mr. Callaghan said in the statement that after a detailed inquiry he was satisfied that allegations about the security services did not constitute grounds for a lack of confidence in their competence or impartiality.

He accepted that the present government would not have

known that, and made clear that he was not accusing it of misleading the Commons, because in accordance with precedent the information would not have been passed on from the Labour government to the present government.

But ministers were wrong to say that Mr. Callaghan had said with it. "He did not and neither did I. They are different allegations."

He went on to loud cheers from Labour MPs: "Unless an inquiry is set up - this is not national security, it is an exercise by dissident members of MI5 - I shall get at the root of it whatever happens. This government had better remember that."

Sir Michael immediately undertook to draw Mr. Rees's remarks to the attention of Mr. Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary.

Mr. Rees said later that there were new allegations of an attempt to "denigrate Ted Heath" because of the Conservative government's plans to abolish Stormont on top of the Wright allegations of an attempt to destabilize the Wilson government.

He had intervened because the Government was defending itself and saying there had been an inquiry, when it did not know what the inquiry was into.

Mr. Rees said the inquiry must investigate whether there was a unit of dissidents in MI5 out of control which off their own bat were investigating members of the government at that time.

Mr. Rees said the inquiry referred to in the Callaghan statement was conducted by the former Cabinet secretary Sir John (now Lord) Hunt and covered allegations that there was bugging of Downing Street and Harold Wilson's room in the Commons.

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Mr. Rees leaving the Commons after threatening to "get to the root" of the MI5 affairs (Photograph: James Gray).

## Retarded girl, 17, must be sterilized

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Court of Appeal yesterday ordered that a 17-year-old girl with a mental age of five should be sterilized to save her from pregnancy.

In a history-making ruling Lord Justice Dillon said the consequences of the girl, who will be 18 in May, becoming pregnant were "frightening".

Although sterilization involved taking "away a basic human right, the loss of that right would mean nothing to her", the judge said.

The girl from Newcastle, named only as Jeanette, "has no desire to reproduce," he added. She did not and never would be able to link sexual intercourse with the birth of babies and would be wholly unable to look after a baby or child if able to have one.

"She is as a small child herself mentally", he said. "Child bearing can provide nothing of benefit to her."

The case is the first of its kind to reach the Court of Appeal and is expected to

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prompt a number of similar applications for mentally-retarded young women to be sterilized.

Lawyers said that there were already a number of similar cases in the pipeline awaiting the outcome of the Court of Appeal's ruling.

The hearing was brought by the Official Solicitor who stepped in as legal guardian for the girl, a ward of court, to obtain a definitive court ruling on what has been a "grey" area of the law.

There has been mounting concern over the problem as mentally retarded people have been given more freedom to circulate in the community.

MENCAP yesterday said it could not comment on the specific case. But it said that it "would not wish to think that the court's decision would be a charter for indiscriminate sterilization of women with a mental handicap."

It accepted however that in some cases, and taking into account all the circumstances, sterilization might be justified and that in some cases it would not be possible to obtain "informed consent."

The ruling upholds an earlier decision of the High Court judge Mr. Justice Buxton in January to order the girl's sterilization after hearing an application by Sunderland Borough Council, backed by her mother.

Jeanette was a girl of a "very low degree of intelligence" and a "moderate degree" of mental handicap, Lord Justice Dillon said yesterday.

She could perform only simple domestic duties and had very limited communication powers, speaking sentences of just a word or two.

Her mother and social workers had seen that she was now "showing signs of sexual awareness and sexual drive", he said.

"The question at once arises of the risk of pregnancy," he said. "Contraception had been considered but the Pill posed problems in that some types could react adversely to other medication she was taking and the type that would be suitable could be unreliable as she might not take it regularly."

## Lawson gains eve-of-Budget spending boost

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Chancellor received an eve-of-Budget boost yesterday, with the news that spending in the shops rose sharply last month.

There had been fears that retail sales were running out of steam after falls in December and January. But last month the volume of retail sales rose by 2.2 per cent.

In the money markets, interest rates eased again. Dealers believe that, barring disasters, a one-point cut in base rates is on the cards this week.

This would push base rates to 9.5 per cent and into single figures for the first time since 1984.

The pound held steady, with the prospect of big cuts in income tax failing to unsettle the markets. It gained half a cent to \$1.795 but slipped 1.5 pence to DM2.90. The sterling index fell by 0.2 to 71.4.

The City is anticipating a Budget which combines big tax cuts with a show of financial prudence, as indicated by a cut in the borrowing target by £1 billion - possibly as much as £2 billion.

The consensus on cuts in the basic rate of income tax is that there will be a 2p in the pound reduction.

But many analysts believe that the Chancellor, Mr. Nigel Lawson, with a possible £6 billion at his disposal, will be unable to resist the temptation of cutting the basic rate to 25p in the pound, a 4p cut from present levels.

Mr. Lawson will emphasize that the economy is pursuing a broadly-based recovery, with exports now rising strongly to

complement the strength of domestic demand. He will stress also that a balance of payments crisis is not around the corner, as Labour politicians have suggested.

The Chancellor will underline also the long-term nature of some of his proposals, including the decision to go ahead with tax relief on profit-related pay and other elements in an "enterprise" package.

Some restructuring of certain taxes is expected, although the Budget is likely to be fairly straightforward in order to allow for the possibility of a truncated finance bill and an early general election.

One probable area for action is on mortgage interest relief. Where a raising of the limit from £30,000 to £35,000 may be combined with limiting the relief to the basic rate of income tax.

Excise duties, on alcohol, tobacco and petrol, are likely to rise by slightly less than required to match inflation. Cigarettes are expected to rise by 5-6p for a packet of 20 but duty rises on other products could be small. Indentation would require a 1p rise in the price of a pint of beer.

Consumer strength, page 21

## Tories face attack on rising crime

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A foretaste of the law and order battle to be fought in the general election came yesterday over a further increase in official crime figures.

Recorded offences rose by 7 per cent last year in England and Wales while the clear-up rate fell by 5 per cent.

Mr. Gerald Kaufman, Labour's home affairs spokesman, said: "Government policy on law and order has broken down."

Mrs. Shirley Williams, the SDP's home affairs spokeswoman, said: "The Government's claim to be the party of law and order has been shattered by the upsurge in crime and the fall in the clear-up rate."

But Mr. David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office, said that a Labour

government's policies would increase crime, shackle the police and would mean the courts' discretion would be curtailed.

"It is inconceivable that a Labour government would have arrested any of the increase," he said.

The Home Office statistics show that the clear-up rate, the number of offences cleared up in a year expressed as a percentage of offences recorded, was 31.6 per cent in 1986, compared with 33.4 per cent in 1985.

Recorded burglaries in 1986 were 7 per cent higher than in 1985, which more than offset a 3 per cent drop in the previous year. Sexual offences rose by 6 per cent.

Tories under attack, page 2

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## Tomorrow

### Budget special



The Chancellor speaks: The Budget in depth - a special supplement detailing the Chancellor's plans and how they affect your standard of living

## INSIDE

### £1/2m for girl

A girl aged 14, who was left with permanent disabilities when a hospital doctor sent her home without adequately treating a head injury eight years ago, was awarded £500,000 damages. Page 3

## TIMES SPORT

### Cup draw

Tottenham, the FA Cup favourites, have been drawn against Watford in the semi-finals of the competition. The other tie is between Coventry and Leeds. Page 40

### Stearnsby doubt

Stearnsby is doubtful for Thursday's Cheltenham Gold Cup after a slight setback. The Festival starts today. Page 40

## Portfolio

● The £8,000 prize in yesterday's Times Portfolio Gold competition - double the usual amount as there was no daily prize winner on Saturday - was shared by three readers. Details, page 3. ● Portfolio list, page 25.

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## Iran joins Runcie in hostage pact

From Robert Flak, Beirut

The fate of three Iranians kidnapped in Lebanon five years ago has now become bound up with the search for Mr. Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's missing envoy, following an exchange of letters between the Archbishop and the Speaker of the Iranian Parliament.

Tehran radio yesterday quoted in Farsi the contents of a letter which it said had been sent by Dr. Robert Runcie to the Archbishop in which the Archbishop offered to help find the three Iranians - kidnapped by Lebanese Christian Phalangist militiamen in the summer of 1982 - in return for the Iranian official's help in tracing Mr. Waite.

A spokeswoman for Dr. Runcie said in London yesterday that the Archbishop had offered to locate only one of the three Iranians, whom she named as Mate Vassellani. She quoted the Archbishop's letter, in part, as referring to the kidnap "by the Phalange militia" and "telling Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani: 'If you would like me to do so, I would be happy to use my contacts in the Christian community in Beirut to help if I can discover anything of his whereabouts.'"

However, the missing Iranians have long been a cause of deep concern to the authorities in Tehran since one of them was the Iranian Revolutionary Guards' commander

in Syria. The second was Mr. Hussein Mutavi, the Iranian chargé d'affaires in Beirut, and the third a journalist working for the Iranian national news agency Irna.

The three were last seen when they were stopped at a Phalangist checkpoint at al-Barbar in early July 1982 while on their way from Tripoli to Beirut after fleeing from Syria. Their Lebanese driver was later released.

In its own version of the Archbishop's letter Tehran radio quoted Dr. Runcie as saying that Mr. Waite was "independent" of the British Government or any political party and was a religious man with a profound respect for Islam and for Muslims.

The reply of Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani was even warmer in tone and did appear to represent a genuine attempt by the Iranians to help trace Mr. Waite. "I welcome your offer," the Speaker wrote, "and have asked officials and our friends in Lebanon and Syria to persist in searching for a clue..."

Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani originally offered to help find Mr. Waite in reply to a reporter's question at a press conference in Tehran in January. At the time, he mentioned the three missing Iranians and complained bitterly that their fate had never attracted the interest of the West.

Amal's war 6

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## Boy, 8, is treated for rabies

A boy aged eight is in a Birmingham hospital with suspected rabies.

Indepal Singh Hayre, from Handsworth, Birmingham, was bitten by a dog while on holiday in India about eight weeks ago. He was clinically diagnosed as having rabies when admitted to hospital on Sunday.

His family and about a dozen doctors and nurses who came into contact with him have been vaccinated against rabies. Health officials said there was little danger of the disease being spread.

Doctors said Indepal was displaying classic symptoms of rabies, but the results of tests sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Colindale, North London, would not be known until later this week.

Indepal was admitted to the Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, and then transferred to the intensive care unit at the East Birmingham Hospital which has facilities to deal with infectious diseases.

He is being fed intravenously and is under sedation. His condition was described as stable.

Dr. Sorinder Bakshi, a Birmingham specialist in community medicine, said it was possible to treat rabies if there was an early diagnosis.

The last known case in Britain was that of a woman, aged 45, in Portsmouth last August. She had been bitten by a dog in Zambia and died of the disease. In the past 11 years there have been nine other cases, all of which proved fatal.

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## June start for coffee time ITV

By Jonathan Miller, Media Correspondent

The independent television stations intend to launch a limited schedule of morning programmes in late June to compete with the BBC's daytime service.

However, they will hold back a full schedule of programmes until after the August Bank Holiday.

The new schedule, dubbed "coffee time", will begin as soon as school ends when ITV will drop its traditional schools broadcasts.

The schools broadcasts will resume after the August Bank Holiday on Channel 4, opening up time on ITV for a year-round morning service.

The ITV schedule, which must be approved by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, is likely to mirror the one pioneered by the BBC.

It will include a game show, a soap opera, hourly ITN news bulletins and an interview programme.

The Independent Television Companies Association said: "We will not be putting our best foot forward until the autumn television season."

● The IBA yesterday increased by 20 per cent the annual subscription to be paid by the ITV companies for the operation of Channel 4 and its Welsh equivalent, S4C. The total to be paid by the companies will be £203.4 million, of which Channel 4 will receive £163.4 million and S4C will get £40 million.

The increased subscriptions reflect the overall increase in advertising sales.

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## Soviet dam disaster kills 19

From a Correspondent, Moscow

Nineteen people were killed, six others critically injured and nine were missing after a dam burst in Tadzhikistan, Soviet Central Asia, Tass said yesterday.

Water "fell upon" the village of Sargozan, sweeping away 53 houses and two farms. Crops and livestock were destroyed, bridges and railway lines damaged.

Communications with the stricken village were disrupted.

The agency said that there was a "critical situation" in the region as a result of torrential rains that lasted for several days.

The situation was "tense" in the nearby Kurgan Tyubinsky region too because of the heavy rains.

Yesterday's report, carried in the afternoon of the day the dam collapsed, underlines the continued willingness of the Soviet authorities to make public accidents and disasters.

This new-found openness contrasts sharply with reports on the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station, which were late and confusing.

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## NEWS SUMMARY

## Ford was told of Rover costs

The Department of Trade and Industry has confirmed that Austin Rover and Ford exchanged confidential commercial information on costs in February last year from which Austin Rover suffered a decline in market share.

But the department denied it had forced executives to comply.

In January *The Times* reported, "The department agreed to a Ford request to see the production and marketing costs for every Austin Rover model, from which the company learnt that the ex-factory cost of the rival Metro was £100 higher than the Ford Fiesta". At that time the Department of Industry had declined to comment on the controversial action of the then Secretary of State, Mr Leon Brittan.

In the BBC *Panorama* programme last night Ford repeated its denial that commercial details were exchanged. Mr Derek Barron, chairman of Ford of Britain, said: "The claim is quite unfair because it is quite untrue: the discussions were only extremely sketchy."

## Kidnap Violence warning campaign

The planned abduction of three foster children was known to social services staff almost two weeks before the snatch happened, it was disclosed yesterday.

A police guard on the youngsters was to start yesterday, three days after they were taken by their father in Andover, Hampshire.

The family is believed to have fled the country. The Sanders children - Steven, aged 14, Sally, aged 13, and Sarah, aged 10, were taken into care after their sister was found hanged.

Social workers yesterday stepped up their campaign for greater protection against attacks by clients.

A conference in Birmingham of the British Association of Social Workers said members were increasingly asking for technological aids, such as cordless telephones and personal alarms, because of their fear of assault.

The Association of Directors of Social Services is expected to issue guidelines in the next few weeks, advising social workers on protection.

## Royal nanny dies

Miss Helen Lightbody, former nanny to the Prince of Wales and Princess Anne, died in a nursing home at Hawick, in the Scottish Borders, at the weekend aged 79.

Miss Lightbody ran the Buckingham Palace nursery for eight years until 1956. No reason was ever given for her decision to leave, but there was speculation that the Queen had disagreed with her about discipline.

Miss Lightbody began her career as nanny to the Princes William and Richard of Gloucester. She was given the nickname "No Nonsense" Lightbody when she went to Australia with them.

The Queen has sent a message of sympathy to her family.

## Johnston declares

Mr Brian Johnston, the veteran presenter of Radio Four's *Down Your Way*, is to leave the programme in May after 15 years and 733 broadcasts.

Mr Johnston, aged 74, will complete his lastings on May 24 with a broadcast from Lord's Cricket Ground. He said he decided to "declare at 733" because this was the number of programmes presented by his predecessor, Mr Franklin Engelmann.

The BBC said Mr Johnston will continue providing test match commentary on Radio Three.



## Cashier hurt in raid

A male cashier was slightly injured by flying glass when a gunman fired a shotgun at a security screen during an attempted bank robbery in Kent yesterday.

Despite the blast, the cashier at the Lloyds bank branch in St John's Hill, Sevenoaks, ignored demands for cash and the raider fled empty-handed.

## Maxwell apology to Standard

By Jonathan Miller  
Media Correspondent

Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, yesterday apologized publicly for claiming that *The London Evening Standard* had lied about its circulation.

The apology and retraction were published in his *London Daily News* as evidence mounted that his paper is facing serious problems and running up huge losses.

"We do not believe in fighting a battle unfairly or dishonestly, and accordingly unreservedly withdraw any suggestion that the circulation figures of the *Evening Standard* had been inaccurately given and apologize for having made it," Mr Maxwell wrote.

His apology was received coldly at *The Standard*, which last week won an injunction prohibiting Mr Maxwell from repeating his claim that *The Standard* had lied.

Mr Bert Hardy, *Standard* chief executive, said the paper's libel action against Mr Maxwell continues.

According to Fleet Street circulation managers yesterday, Mr Robert Maxwell's *London Daily News* is trailing its rival by at least 250,000 copies a day, has cut its print order in half, and may be forced into a relaunch in days if matters do not improve.

Their conclusion is expected to be supported later this week by a telephone survey conducted by the JICNAR research organization.

The results of the survey are expected to show circulation of the *London Daily News* at about 300,000, compared with audited sales figures of more than 550,000 for *The Standard*.

Mr Maxwell cut the price of his paper to 10p, against *The Standard's* 20p, but it appears to have made no difference to sales.

## Left-wing censors accused

By Martin Fletcher  
Political Reporter

Left-wing councils, which stock children's libraries with homosexual books, and ban old favourites on the ground of "racism", were condemned yesterday by Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts.

He also deplored the recent ban by nearly a quarter of local authorities on *News International* newspapers, including *The Times*, during the Wapping dispute.

In his annual report on the public library service, he said: "Sadly, the banning of newspapers was not the only example during the year of ideological interference in the selection of library material."

Haringey council, in north London, had stocked a book in its children's libraries "which seemed positively to advocate homosexuality", while other authorities "were reportedly discouraging books which had given generations of children great pleasure because they were allegedly 'racist' or 'sexist'", he said.

Mr Luce was supported in the same report by the Library and Information Services Council which said it was "saddened" by the *News International* ban.

## Thatcher hints at June election date

By Nicholas Wood  
Political Reporter

The Prime Minister yesterday hinted strongly that she may call a June general election and made clear she wanted to stay in power for the full term of the next Parliament.

She said any time from June, marking the beginning of the last 12 months of her five-year term, was "fair game" for going to the country.

Her remarks, apparently opening the door to a poll after June 9, the fourth anniversary of her 1983 victory, fed election fever at Westminster.

They suggested Mrs Margaret Thatcher is being swayed by the growing number of backbenchers, backed by Mr Norman Tebbit, party chairman, who believe the Conservatives are being handed an opportunity not to be missed.

Her comments, in an interview with *The London Evening Standard*, contrasted with those a month ago, when she restricted herself to observing there would be an election "some time between now and June 1988".

She was dismissive of

Labour's prospects, not believing it could recover lost ground in time for polling day. And she reiterated her ambition of staying in power long enough to ensure socialism was bowled to the fringes of the British political scene.

The increasing Conservative lead in the opinion polls, now nine points according to the latest MORI survey, and Labour's renewed bout of factional infighting are the main factors behind pressure for an early election.

But today's Budget, in which Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor, is expected to

knock 2p or 3p off the basic rate of income tax, raise thresholds and cut public borrowing by at least £1 billion, so paving the way to lower interest rates, is also being widely seen by Tory MPs as likely to strengthen their party's chances.

However, there is mounting evidence that the public is far from convinced about the merits of tax cuts. Yesterday, an opinion poll carried out for BBC Radio 4, suggested people preferred higher spending on public services.

According to the survey of 5,500 people aged over 16,

conducted by the Broadcasting Research Department of the BBC, 60 per cent of taxpayers were willing to pay higher taxes if the money went on the health service and job creation.

Overall, however, it suggested the public was ambivalent about Mr Lawson's declared intentions.

Of those polled, 81 per cent said a section of the community deserved tax cuts, and of those 52 per cent thought they should go to low wage earners.

The BBC survey was broadly in line with a MORI poll in yesterday's *Times*

## Pressure on Thatcher as the crime figures soar

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

The Conservative Party is to face the general election with a rising tide of reported crime.

Figures from the Home Office yesterday showed that the number of crimes in England and Wales rose by 7 per cent last year, higher than the annual 6 per cent average between 1980 and 1985.

At the same time, the number of offences cleared up were about 5 per cent fewer than in the previous year.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour's home affairs spokesman, said: "More crimes committed and fewer solved, that's Margaret Thatcher's criminal record."

He said that the Prime Minister had come to office on the promise of reducing crime, but since then it had risen by 50 per cent. Burglaries and criminal damage had increased at a greater rate, while the clear-up rate for all crimes had fallen.

"Government policy on law and order has broken down. What we need are positive policies for crime prevention, for proper victim support and compensation, and for freeing the police from bureaucracy so that they can get on with the job they are meant to do," Mr Kaufman said.

Mrs Shirley Williams, the SDP home affairs spokeswoman, said: "The Government's claim to be the party of law and order has been shattered by the upsurge in crime and the fall in the clear-up rate."

She said: "Crime on the streets has its echo in high places in the frauds and insider dealing which is coming to light."

She called on the Government to show a willingness to tackle the causes of crime, including homelessness and long-term unemployment.

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office, said: "It is inconceivable that a Labour government would have arrested any of the increase. Some of the things they are outlining would make things worse."

He said that the relationship between unemployment and crime was tenuous. If anything, the trends had been exacerbated by the appalling state of relations with the police in inner-city areas ruled by Labour.

Mr Mellor said that 15,000 extra police had been recruited since 1979, the biggest rise in memory.

In 1980, 10 per cent of those convicted of robbery received five years' imprisonment, whereas in 1985 the figure was 17 per cent. Between March and September last year, about 45 per cent of those found guilty of rape or attempted rape had an effective sentence of more than five years, compared with a proportion of about 20 per cent in the previous year.

Sir Kenneth Newman, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said: "I need 3,800 extra men. The response to that has been to give us 1,200 at the rate of 300 a year over four years."

He said: "Confronted with increases in crime and with a high level of abstractions from ordinary duty for public order, particularly at Wapping, officers have worked harder than ever before."

The national crime figures showed an increase in all types of crime, except fraud and forgery (down 1 per cent) and "other offences" (down 3 per cent). The biggest single increases were in robbery (9 per cent) and burglary (7 per cent). Sexual offences rose 6 per cent, but that included a 24 per cent increase in rape.

Offences of violence against the person were up by 3 per cent, at 126,000, compared with 7 per cent in 1985. Recorded homicides, which fluctuate widely, rose to 662, compared with about 620 in the previous two years.

The increase in robbery was similar to the rise in the previous year, while the rise in burglaries more than offset a 3 per cent fall the previous year. Burglaries on dwellings rose by 10 per cent and other buildings by 4 per cent. Theft accounted for more than half of all reported offences.

The biggest increases were in recorded thefts from vehicles (up 21 per cent) and the theft or taking of motor vehicles (up 12 per cent). Thefts from the person were up 6 per cent. Among decreases were thefts from shops (down 9 per cent) and handling stolen goods (both down 9 per cent). There was a 9 per cent fall in the recorded number of drug trafficking offences, compared with a 22 per cent increase in the previous year.

Notifiable Offences Recorded by the Police in England and Wales, 1986: Home Office Statistical Bulletin (Statistical Dept. HO, Lunar House, Croydon, Surrey, CR9 3YD). Leading article, page 13

## OFFENCES IN ENGLAND &amp; WALES

Notifiable offences recorded by the police				
Offence group	1984	1985	1986	1985/86 change
Violence against people	114.2	121.7	125.5	+3
Sexual offences	20.2	21.5	22.7	+6
Robbery	24.9	27.1	30.0	+9
Burglary and going equipped	897.5	871.3	936.4	+7
Theft and handling stolen goods	1,808.0	1,884.1	2,003.9	+6
Fraud and forgery	125.1	134.8	133.4	-1
Criminal damage	487.8	538.6	585.6	+8
Other offences	10.4	12.2	11.9	-3
Total	3,489.1	3,611.9	3,847.4	+7

## OFFENCES IN LONDON

Notifiable offences recorded by Metropolitan Police				
Offence group	1984	1985	1986	1985/86 change
Violence against people	19,000	20,242	20,308	0
Sexual offences	3,053	3,559	3,824	+7
Robbery	13,570	15,104	16,191	+7
Burglary and going equipped	168,900	155,228	157,996	+2
Theft/handling stolen goods	374,007	386,139	413,588	+7
Fraud and forgery	32,382	35,841	33,687	-6
Criminal damage	102,734	113,084	119,918	+6
Other	2,895	3,552	3,002	-10
Total	716,545	732,559	768,514	+5

## Disaster lawyers to meet

Solicitors representing victims of the Zebrugge ferry disaster will hold their first joint meeting in London on Friday.

The meeting, in the Methodist Central Hall in Westminster, has been set up at the initiative of the Manchester and Sheffield law firm Pannone Napier.

The firm was on the steering committee of lawyers working for victims of the Manchester air disaster and is believed to be the only veteran of that legal battle involved in the ferry claims. It has several clients.

Mr Michael Napier said the firm had received more than 20 calls from solicitors representing victims after it put a notice in the *Law Society Gazette*, the profession's magazine, saying it would set up a meeting if other lawyers were interested.

Mr Napier said that the aim of the first meeting would be to set up a steering committee, which could keep other lawyers informed of the progress of claims.

Solicitors who have shown an interest so far have been instructed by relatives of the dead and injured victims, as well as those who lost possessions.

The Law Society has received about 60 requests for information from lawyers with a similar range of clients.

It has circulated a fact sheet including the names of all solicitors involved, and pointing to Pannone Napier's notice in the *Law Society Gazette*.

The Law Society estimates that the solicitors who have approached it so far represent about 120 people.

The claims office set up in Dover by Townsend Thoresen has received about 200 claims so far, mainly from people who have lost possessions, according to its insurers.

Salvage operations on the capsized ferry *Herald of Free Enterprise* were suspended for several hours yesterday when strong winds lashed the stricken ship. Worsening weather conditions are forecast for later this week.

The task of righting the ship, in which at least 78 bodies are believed to be trapped, is scheduled for the end of this month.

Five more victims of the ferry disaster were identified at further inquests opened at Dover Town Hall yesterday. The inquests were provisionally adjourned to May 19.

## Heads in call for new exam reform

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

A radical plan to abolish examinations at 16 and completely overhaul the education and training of all young people between the ages of 14 and 18 was launched yesterday by the National Association of Head Teachers.

The association, which represents head teachers in about half of the state secondary schools in England and Wales, believes that the new 16-plus examination, the GCSE, which is to be taken for the first time next summer, is already out of date.

Instead, it believes that a four-year "personalized course" should be offered to every 14-year-old, who would not necessarily attend school.

The association says it wants to break down the barriers between school, further education and the workplace.

Each personalized course would consist of four elements: academic, practical, technical and vocational. The curriculum would be "flexible and relevant". Such a programme "does not lend itself to formal examinations", the heads say, and A levels would play only a residual role.

The association believes that the present curriculum "over-emphasizes the purely academic approach".

The Inner London Education Authority has reacted angrily to a report that the

Prime Minister is considering ways of breaking it up.

Mrs Frances Morrell, the leader of the Labour-controlled authority, which runs more than 1,000 schools, said: "Mrs Thatcher always wants to abolish democratic institutions, whenever the Conservatives lose elections to them."

Mrs Thatcher was reported to have said that the Government's plans for city technology colleges would allow at least three schools to opt out of ILEA control. But she wondered whether that was enough and doubted that handing schools over to left-wing boroughs such as Lambeth and Islington would be much of an improvement.

The Chancellor was urged by the right-wing Monday Club yesterday to allow tax relief on all school fees.

The club says the present tax system discriminates against marriage in the treatment of school fees.

Thousands of school children may leave school without taking exams this summer, because of new social security regulations which state that young people who leave school at Easter will no longer be entitled to supplementary benefit if they have entered for summer exams.

Youth organizations yesterday claimed the new rules would discourage children from staying at school.

## Moderates reject coal offer

By Craig Seton

The moderate Union of Democratic Mineworkers (UDM) has rejected the latest pay offer from British Coal.

The offer, which British Coal claimed could be worth up to £10 a week, was thrown out by 16,306 votes to 1,979 in a secret ballot and the executive of the union is now heading for its first pay battle with British Coal.

The UDM executive had recommended its membership to reject the offer, which it said represented only £3 a week on basic rates, worth 2 per cent.

Mr Roy Lynk, the national president, said that the remaining £7 a week was linked to attendance allowances and continuity bonuses, which would in effect be a no-strike agreement.

The UDM yesterday asked the High Court in London to rule that British Coal must consult with the union's clerical and weekly paid supervisory staff on terms and conditions of employment.

The hearing, expected to last for three to four days, continues tomorrow. Northumberland County Council announced yesterday it is starting legal action to recover loans paid out to miners' families during the year-long pit strike.

## £500,000 appeal for city costs

By Peter Davenport

Liverpool's disqualified Labour councillors are to launch a public appeal to pay the £500,000 bill they face after losing their campaign against a surcharge.

The 47 former councillors face the huge costs after the House of Lords last week rejected their two-year legal case.

Many are out of work and claim they face bankruptcy and loss of homes and property if they are forced to pay. Church leaders in the city have said the penalties were "without parallel".

The bill includes a £106,000 surcharge following their delay in setting a rate in 1985 as part of their campaign against government financial policies.

They have until March 26 to pay. But legal officials in the city yesterday said they expected the district auditor to open negotiations on an agreement, similar to that in Lambeth, which would allow the ex-councillors to make collective monthly payments to clear the debt.

That will still leave legal fees and court costs of around £400,000. An earlier appeal by the councillors raised £200,000.

Last night the councillors were to meet their legal advisers.

## Feuding goes on after murders

By Richard Ford

The murderous feud within the Irish National Liberation Army is set to continue after the death of a leading terrorist only minutes after an apparent ceasefire came into effect.

The shooting of Gerard Steenson, known as "Dr Death", and Anthony McCarthy two days ago shattered hopes of peace between battling factions within the disintegrating terrorist organization.

Negotiations to arrange a truce were advanced when the two men were ambushed in West Belfast by former comrades they believed no longer had the fire power to oppose efforts to disband the outlawed republican paramilitary group.

Some believed a ceasefire had begun at midnight on Saturday but within 10 minutes the men were attacked and their car riddled with bullets as they drove through a hard-line republican area after a night drinking.

The General Headquarters Action of INLA, which shot the men, jubilantly proclaimed that this "answers any doubts" about their military capabilities. They were clearly delighted to have murdered Mr Steenson, aged 29, who they regarded as being intent on building a personal power base in West Belfast.

Mr Steenson had an awesome reputation as one of the most ruthless terrorists spawned during the present troubles.

His baby face belied a deadly reputation as a "classy gunman" who was always "off side" quickly if trouble erupted.

He was convicted of six murders and 61 other offences on the word of a supergrass but released on December 23 after the Court of Appeal questioned the evidence of the key prosecution witness.

His death is certain to be avenged by the Army Council faction which is intent on forcing the disbandment of INLA which it says has become little more than an organization involved in criminal activities rather than true republicanism.

Last night a large army and police presence surrounded the dead man's family home in the Clonard area of the Lower Falls in preparation for his funeral this morning.

## Jobs 'gulf' remains in Ulster

By a Staff Reporter

The minority Catholic community in Northern Ireland still experiences higher rates of unemployment and has failed to break through in significant numbers into senior managerial jobs, according to a survey published yesterday.

A big rise in unemployment between 1971 and 1981 has not evened out the Protestant-Roman Catholic differential, with the minority community experiencing unemployment rates twice as high as "loyalists". The difference is even higher for males.

A study conducted for the Fair Employment Agency by Queens University, Belfast, and Ulster University, puts part of the blame on the traditional dependence of Catholic men on work in the construction industry, which has been in rapid decline, and on the dramatic growth in the security industry, because of the troubles, which has provided employment to Protestants, compensating for the collapse of traditional manufacturing.

The report finds in the younger age group, that Catholics are making significant progress in professions such as education, health and law, however, although they are likely to be working in lower-paid areas, such as nurses and teachers, rather than as doctors.

Some change has occurred through an increase in Catholics working in "managerial" and "supervisory" occupations.

In the Northern Ireland Civil Service, the province's largest single employer, Catholics' representation has improved in all grades, although only marginally at the most senior levels.

The study concludes that a substantial task remains to secure full equality of opportunity.

## Two teenagers are remanded

A girl aged 16 and a boy aged 15 appeared in Chelsea Juvenile Court, south-west London, yesterday accused of the murder of Jacqueline Gordon, aged 15 of Wincroft Drive, Eltham, who was found strangled on Friday.

They were remanded to appear at Greenwich Juvenile Court on Friday, the boy in custody, the girl into the care of the local social services.



# Judge sees film of Miss Courage and agrees £1½m award

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A teenager left with "tragic and devastating" injuries after a hospital blunder was awarded £500,000 damages in the High Court yesterday after the judge watched a videotape of how she courageously struggled with her disabilities.

Mr Justice Boreham approved the award after watching a 14-minute videotape of Olivia Graham, now a "charming and cheerful" girl aged 14.

She was left with permanent disabilities from a fall when aged six after a hospital doctor sent her home without adequately treating a head injury.

Mr George Carman, QC, appearing for her, said her loss was of the most "tragic and devastating kind".

She walks with a limp which limits her capacity to move about and her right arm, although functionally useless, "shoots up frequently to the Statue of Liberty position".

If she had been treated immediately, he said, she would have recovered from the head injury. "She was a gifted and talented child for whom everything in life was set fair."

The damages and costs are to be paid by the casualty officer, Dr Charles Watt-Smyke, of Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, and the Berkshire Area Health Authority, which admitted liability.

Olivia fell on her head while playing in the grounds of Eton College, where her father was senior housemaster. Her mother, Penelope, took her to a doctor who referred them to Wexham Park Hospital, Slough, Berkshire, where she was examined by the casualty officer but sent home.

Olivia's condition deteriorated and an emergency operation was carried out to remove a huge blood clot pressing on her brain.

But Mr Carman said, sadly, it was too late and she was left with "formidable and permanent disabilities".

Mr Carman added that had he been obliged to fight the case at a full court hearing he would have asked for some £750,000 to cover the cost of care for the rest of her life.

But the defendants paid £500,000 into court in offer of settlement.

After the hearing yesterday her mother said: "We are happy that the legal part of the ordeal is over. She is a fantastic character and a super person."

**£350,000 for brain damage**

A brain-damaged boy aged three was awarded £350,000 at the High Court in Exeter after a hospital admitted a blunder during his delivery.

Nicholas Wood was left permanently crippled and incapable of looking after himself when he was deprived of

oxygen during childbirth at Torbay Hospital in South Devon.

The boy himself won all but £5,000 of the award, the remainder going to his mother Julie.

Mr Simon Tuckey, for the parents, said Nicholas should have been delivered by Caesarean section, but in the 90 minutes before his actual birth he suffered severe brain damage because of lack of oxygen.

Mr Tuckey said Mrs Wood, aged 33, had been forced to give up hope of returning to her job in public relations and her husband Christopher, aged 38, had given up time from his central heating business to help to look after Nicholas.

Despite the error Mrs Wood had returned to Torbay Hospital for the successful birth of her second son James, Mr Tuckey said.

After the case Mrs Wood said: "We are very pleased this is all over after three and a half years. We are very satisfied with the outcome."

Mr Darren Williams, now aged 17, of Grove Green Road, Leytonstone, east London, who must live in a crash helmet after head injuries suffered in a road accident in 1980, won £50,000 damages in the High Court in London.

Mr Keith Mitchell, the car driver, of Woodford Green, Essex, denied negligence.



Michael Peach (left), consultant architect, and Jeff West, of English Heritage, inside the cruck barn at Leigh with, in the background, Mr Duncan Stewart, who farms the land, and his parents who own the barn (Photograph: Graham Wood).

## £500,000 to restore rare barn

By Alan Hamilton

A luxurious carpet of sheep droppings showed that Duncan Stewart's 150 breeding ewes appreciate the vast empty barn on his farm at Leigh, near Worcester.

But this mere shelter for sheep is the largest timber cruck barn, and one of the oldest surviving, in the world. Next week, English Heritage, begins a £500,000 two-year project to rescue and restore the unique 700 year old structure.

Outwardly, the barn, half hidden in farmyard clutter, is dilapidated and down-at-heel. Inside, however, the soaring cathedral of thirteenth century oak timbers, big enough to exercise a horse, is virtually intact.

The barn, which was built to store produce from the rich farmlands of Pershore Abbey near by, is an engineering wonder enclosing a space 141 ft x 35 ft and uninterrupted by any internal support.

Leigh Court Barn was built about 1300. Cruck building on such a scale was rare, because of the difficulty of finding oak trees of suitable size and shape to form the huge crucks, each nearly 60 ft long, which arch in pairs from a low retaining wall to the roof ridge.

Over several centuries the barn has gradually been pushing itself outwards, and rescue work will involve jacking up each cruck one at a time to insert hidden concrete foundations.

The barn is now a Grade One listed building.

Mr Stewart, aged 29, who now farms Leigh Court and whose remote ancestors owned the barn at the time of the Dissolution of the Monasteries, held his wedding reception inside it.

Now he is negotiating with English Heritage historians whether to let sheep return to re-carpet the floor of ancient flagstones.

Mr Stewart said: "I have asked the Government for information on how many children are being held in secure units on the grounds that they have the Aids virus and under what authority they are being held."

He said that his information came from a reliable private source but he was unsure how

many children were being held. "Policy in this area has not been made explicit. For how long are they to be detained for these reasons when adults are not?"

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that they had no knowledge of any children being detained because they had the Aids virus.

A spokesman said: "No child may be held in secure accommodation unless the strict criteria laid down under the 1980 Child Care Act

are met. These do not contain any reference to sexual activity."

Under present legislation local authorities can apply for a care order to place adolescents in the secure units if they have evidence that the children are a danger to themselves or others, through violent or abusive behaviour.

The Home Office can also refer young offenders or persistent absconders to secure units.

**Aids alert**

Young people with the Aids virus are being locked up in local authority secure units to prevent them from transmitting the disease, Labour's spokesman on social services claimed yesterday.

Mr Michael Meacher said that disturbed and difficult adolescents were being detained longer than necessary because they had the Aids virus and to prevent the risk of them spreading the disease through sexual contact.

"There are about 350 secure unit places in 44 community homes where a number of young people with the Aids virus are being detained in order to take them out of sexual circulation", Mr Meacher said at the House of Commons launch of a document calling for a national Aids strategy.

He said that the powers to detain children were being abused, because the secure units had never been set up for that purpose.

Mr Meacher has tabled two parliamentary questions calling for an explanation. He said: "I have asked the Government for information on how many children are being held in secure units on the grounds that they have the Aids virus and under what authority they are being held."

He said that his information came from a reliable private source but he was unsure how

An epidemic of Aids among white males working in central Africa is growing and spreading the disease throughout the world, according to French researchers.

Public health education programmes are urgently needed to limit sexual contacts with people at risk and to promote the use of condoms, the doctors report in *The Lancet*.

A study involving French technicians, soldiers and engineers who developed Aids showed that they probably caught the infection from prostitutes or other women while based in Africa.

The 14 men studied then went on to have sexual relations in at least seven other countries. Almost all have since died of the disease.

None of the men was a haemophiliac, an intravenous drug-abuser or had received a blood transfusion. Only one was homosexual.

The number of people in Britain seeking an Aids test has doubled to about 10,000 a month, but those found positive remain constant at about 180 a month, the Government's Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre said yesterday.

**Spread of virus is blamed on whites**

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

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## Footballer 'punched party man'

Maurice Johnston, the Celtic and Scotland player, punched a hairdresser in the eye after being asked to leave a party he had crashed, Glasgow Sheriff Court was told yesterday.

He also swore and threatened to kill the hairdresser, Scott Leslie, aged 19, it was said.

Mr Johnston, aged 23, of Burntwood Gardens, Mount Vernon, Glasgow, and George Lynch, aged 27, of Wallacewell Road, Balornock, Glasgow, deny assaulting Mr Leslie at the Mardi Gras discotheque in Dunlop Street, Glasgow, on November 27.

Mr Johnston's Celtic teammate, striker Alan McNally, told the court he saw Mr Leslie lash out at Mr Johnston.

Mr Leslie said he went to a private birthday party at the club. At the request of one of the people throwing the party, he approached the two uninvited guests and asked them to leave.

He said Mr Lynch butted him in the mouth. Several people got between them and Mr Johnston then looked over, saying: "I am going to kill you."

Mr McNally, whose nickname, the court was told, is Rambo, said he and Mr Johnston were to have smashed a charity collection bottle in a Glasgow public house.

But a crowd had gathered outside and they decided not to try to get in. Instead they went to the Mardi Gras and were shown upstairs by the manager.

Mr McNally said Mr Johnston told him he was followed downstairs by Mr Leslie who had "gone for him and he punched him".

The case continues today.

## Blakelock jury 'to forget revulsion'

The jury in the PC Blakelock murder trial was instructed by the judge yesterday not to allow its verdict to be swayed by revulsion over the killing.

Mr Justice Hodgson said as he began his summing up on the 37th day of the trial at the Central Criminal Court: "You must approach the onerous task placed upon you coolly and dispassionately."

"The fate of these defendants is in your hands and you will not allow your decisions, I know, to be swayed by emotion or by the revulsion everyone who has anything to do with the conduct of this case feels and has expressed at the crime committed."

The jury is expected to go out tomorrow to consider verdicts against three men accused of murdering PC Keith Blakelock, aged 40, who was backed to death by a mob during rioting on Broadwater Farm Estate, Tottenham, in October 1985.

Winston Silcott, aged 27, a greengrocer, of Marlesham, Broadwater Farm Estate, Enfield, aged 20, unemployed, of Partridge Way, Wood Green, and Mark Braithwaite, aged 19, unemployed, of Canonsbury Villa, Islington, all north London, have denied murder, riotous assembly and affray.

A 15-year-old youth has

denied riotous assembly and affray.

The judge said he would be directing the jury to acquit Mr Raghip of making or assisting in making petrol bombs.

He said the jury had heard "for days on end" evidence about how the Broadwater Farm disorder started, developed, and the part played by police. He said: "All these matters are peripheral to the matters which are your main concern."

He said that around 10 pm on October 6, 1985, after three hours of "some of the worst civil disorder ever witnessed in this country", PC Blakelock was brutally murdered by about 30 people.

"If not one of those murderers is brought to book for that terrible crime it will be a great injustice," he said.

"But I know you will agree it would be a far greater injustice if somebody not implicated was wrongly found guilty."

The judge told jurors to put out of their minds reports relating to the trial he said had appeared over the weekend.

The case continues today.

● The Broadwater Farm Defence Committee plans to picket the Central Criminal Court today to highlight the cases of more than 30 people who are still awaiting trial over the disturbances on the estate.

## Woman got heroin for Boy George

A woman was put on probation for two years yesterday after admitting two charges of supplying heroin to Boy George.

Anna Katrina Tinmaung, aged 28, an unemployed musician, of Alwyne Road, Islington, north London, acted as a go-between for the singer and his supplier Stephen Lubin.

She pleaded guilty at the start of the trial of Lubin and Diane Feiner, who were convicted at Knightsbridge Crown Court nine days ago, and was held in custody until yesterday. She also admitted possession of cannabis.

The court was told that Tinmaung bought £100 of heroin which she delivered to Boy George, and on July 6 last year bought more of the drug at his request.

## Research and development

Research and Development funding in one high-tech area of British industry - information technology - is now rising rapidly, according to a report to be published later this week.

But a third of the private spending is accounted for by foreign, mainly American, companies operating in Britain, the report claims, and it says that British companies' spending could be much better directed, particularly by marketing considerations.

The report, *Research and Development within Information Technology in Britain*, has been produced by Comtec Information, a London consultancy, which surveyed more than 50 companies representing about 80 per cent of the UK computer and advanced communications industry.

It goes some way to countering the picture painted in recent weeks of British industry's generally falling R and D levels.

Spending on civil information technology R and D, public and private, was £1.45 billion last year, the

## Long-term strategy urged

By Michael McCarthy

report says, up 50 per cent from 1983 and 15 per cent from 1985. The rising trend will continue this year with an estimated total of £1.57bn for 1987.

The author of the report, Mr Andrew Gritten, said yesterday: "In the information technology sector, at least, companies are thinking about R and D much more than they used to, and increasing their spend."

But the report reveals that of the £1,230 million spent by private industry in 1986, £410,000 million was accounted for by the R and D budgets of foreign, mainly North American, companies operating in Britain.

"This is not such a good sign for British companies, although it is good for the country as a whole," Mr Gritten said.

In his report he says that British information technology firms should allow marketing considerations to direct their spending more.

"American companies spend money on R and D as part of a long-term, global strategy," he said.

"Some British companies do not even have a long-term strategy at all, so how can they expect investors to take a long-term view of them?"

Report on *Research and Development within Information Technology in Britain* (Comtec Information, 9, Cavendish Square, London W1, £350).

## 'Human frontier' research plan

Two leading British scientists said yesterday they foresaw "substantial benefits" to Britain if the country took part in "The Human Frontier", a Japanese-sponsored international research programme, expected to be unveiled in June.

Sir Walter Bodmer, Director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, and Professor Thomas Blundell, from Birkbeck College, London, have been to Tokyo to discuss the possible scientific content of the programme, but say they are not optimistic about official British funding for the project.

## Monopoly complaint over Telecom

By Teresa Poole, Business Correspondent

Subscribers whose equipment is not supplied by British Telecom still face delays in obtaining connections to the telephone network, according to a survey published yesterday by the Office of Communications.

Suppliers and dealers complained of difficulties in obtaining monopoly services when the system was not purchased from British Telecom, for instance users had significantly greater difficulty in getting pre-connection inspections completed.

The survey, of suppliers, dealers and users, concluded that progress had been made in ensuring competition in supplying equipment but that "careful scrutiny" must continue. However, more than half the suppliers, and almost a third of the dealers, felt Telecom tactics were fair.

When users were asked how

## BBC in tune with Channel 4

The BBC is going to link up with commercial broadcasting for the first time on Easter Sunday, for a simultaneous radio and television broadcast of Harrison Birtwistle's opera *Yan Tan Tethera*.

The stereo transmission on BBC Radio 3 is part of a series of four programmes about the British composer on Channel 4 television.

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## Portfolio Gold

### Gem of an idea by the winner

Three readers receive £2,666 each as their share of today's Portfolio Gold dividend. They split £8,000 since there was no winner of Saturday's dividend of £4,000.

Mr John Reynard, aged 65, from Parbold, Lancashire, retires this year as the Head Master of Pike's Lane Junior School. He plans to spend his prize-money on a ruby wedding present for his wife. He has been a reader of *The Times* for two years.

Mrs Grazyna Jasica, aged 35, a housewife of Romford, Essex, plans to spend her money on a new kitchen. She has been a reader of *The Times* for four years.

The third winner is Mrs Elaine Griffiths, aged 30, of Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. Mrs Griffiths, a market researcher, has been reading *The Times* for eight years.

Today's Portfolio Gold prize is the daily dividend of £4,000. Readers can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

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Mr Reynard: retirement and a wedding anniversary.

### Wapping case

Jonathan Feldman, aged 26, an electrician, of Bonington Square, Vauxhall, south London, was bound over in the sum of £50 for 12 months by Thames magistrates yesterday after he had denied using threatening behaviour outside News International at Wapping on January 24. No evidence was offered.

### Tory named

The Conservative Party vice-chairman, Miss Emma Nicholson, was named in the petition when Mrs Janice Caine, the wife of Mr Michael Caine, chairman of publishers Booker McConnell, was granted a decree nisi in the London Divorce Court yesterday.

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March 16 1987

# PARLIAMENT

## Government to appeal in Wright case, says Havers

The Government had decided to appeal against the decision in the Australian courts in the Peter Wright case, the Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, said during Commons questions today.

He dismissed as nonsense an allegation that this was a tactic designed to prevent any further discussion of the case until after a general election and said he was confident that the appeal had a better-than-even chance of success.

During exchanges on the Wright case, Mr. Merlyn Rees, former Labour Home Secretary, said that Wright's allegations of attempts by the security services to destabilize the Labour Government should now be investigated, in which he was involved, had only covered completely different allegations. Sir Michael Havers said that in the Wright case the Government was seeking to uphold the principle that present and former members of the security service owed a comprehensive duty of confidence to the Crown.

Having considered Mr. Justice Powell's judgement and the advice of the Australian counsel, the Government had decided to appeal against it and a notice of appeal would be lodged as soon as practicable.

Mr. David Wainwright (Walsall North, Lab) said that many people would see the Government's decision to appeal as a further wave of taxpayer money. It was not the title of the Wright memoirs which concerned Labour MPs, as everyone knew that Mr. Wright was a very embittered individual. They were concerned about the need to ensure that there was adequate parliamentary scrutiny of the security services.

In view of the allegations that a Labour government was destabilized, at least at certain stages, by the security services, there would be a full judicial inquiry into those allegations.

Sir Michael Havers said the question of an inquiry was not a matter for him. But he wanted to remind the House that the Prime Minister of the day (Mr. James Callaghan) had said that after detailed inquiries he was satisfied that the allegation about the security service did not constitute grounds for a lack of confidence in its competence and impartiality or for instituting a special inquiry.

Mr. Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C) said that if the Government had done nothing to try to stop these extraneous with the nation's secrets for money it would be subject to the accusation of the grossest irresponsibility. The principle of confidentiality should be upheld.

Sir Michael Havers said that these were matters which ministers took very much into consideration when reaching their decision to start the proceedings in Australia.

Mr. Merlyn Rees (Leeds, South and Morley, Lab), who was Home Secretary in a Labour Government between 1976 and 1979, said that he had played a part in the inquiry which took place in the summer of 1977, to which the Attorney General had referred.

It should be made clear that they had not been inquiring into the allegations now made by Mr. Wright and others, but into allegations of electronic devices in Number 10 and only that.

Mr. Callaghan's statement, which the Attorney General had quoted, also referred only to that aspect.

"None of that information would be provided to the Attorney General, nor to the Home Secretary of the day, nor to the Prime Minister because it was a convention that such information was not provided to a later government."

He was therefore dissatisfied with the information about the Wright allegations. The Attorney General had said that the Prime Minister of the day had dealt with it, but he had not



The Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, with President Moi of Kenya in London yesterday. They exchanged documents on a £250million aid agreement involving development projects in Kenya. Report, page 6.

dealt with it and neither had he (Mr. Rees).

These were different allegations and an inquiry should be set up because this was not a matter of national security but of an exercise by dissident members of MI5.

"I shall get at the root of it whatever happens and this Government had better remember that."

(Labour cheers and cries of "Michael the House")

Sir Michael Havers said that he was sure that Mr. Rees would not for a moment suggest that the Government was in any way seeking to mislead, and he was grateful for his acknowledgment of that. Ministers in the present Government did not have access to any of the papers which were considered by Mr. Rees and the then Prime Minister.

He would make sure that what Mr. Rees had said was drawn to the attention of the Home Secretary (Mr. Douglas Hurd).

Mr. Geoffrey Rippon (Hexham, C) warmly welcomed the announcement of the Government's intention to appeal in the Wright case. Many MPs believed the Government was absolutely right to do so and had no alternative.

If the operations of the secret service were to remain secret, the means by which it was controlled must remain the responsibility of the Government of the day and could not be delegated to any other body.

Sir Michael Havers said that had been the convention for a very long time and that was why questions about security were not allowed on the order paper. He agreed with everything that Mr. Rippon had said.

Dr. David Owen, Leader of the SDP, said he was sure that all sides would agree with the principle that nobody working for MI5 or retired from working for MI5 should be free to publish what they wished. The question at issue concerned the

accountability of MI5. What appeared to be the widespread use of illegal practices was causing great concern.

Would the Attorney General explain why he was not involved in the decision not to prosecute Mr. Chapman Pincher six weeks before his book was published? Did it relate to the fact that the book had been stolen? Why was no action taken against Mr. Wright when he appeared on television?

Both cases occurred in this country so rather than the Government going on digging itself into what was already a deep hole in Australia, surely it should concentrate on the higher priority of ensuring that all present and future members of the security service were given binding and enforceable contracts of employment, the breach of which should make them liable to damages and loss of pension rights.

Sir Michael Havers said that the judge's decision on whether there was an enforceable con-

tract of employment was almost certainly going to be one of the grounds of the appeal.

He did not accept that this was a vain attempt. He would not agree to any appeal unless he felt there was a proper chance of success.

Mr. Dale Campbell-Savours (Workington, Lab) asked why the Attorney General had not taken up the offer made by Mr. Malcolm Turnbull, Mr. Wright's lawyer, last week. He was willing to do a deal on the contents of the book, by which any material the Attorney General thought really did breach national security could be excluded from the book.

The proviso was that material relating to Wright's allegations of attempts to destabilize the Labour Government should be published. Surely that was in the national interest.

Why had the Attorney General made his agent go on headed to the Australian High Commission, insisting that the affidavit of Mr. Wright dealing with the allegations of destabilization was taken in camera, behind closed doors?

Sir Michael Havers said that a great deal of the book promised, in the Government's view, to be a matter of confidence. There had been no question of going on headed to the High Commission.

Mr. Campbell-Savours failed to understand the principle that there was a need to uphold the promise made by those employed in the intelligence services that they would not at any time disclose anything they had learnt during the course of their employment in breach of confidentiality.

Mr. David Ashby (North West Leicestershire, C) said that the reason why the Australian court had taken a different view of section 2 of the Official Secrets Act was because Australia had a Freedom of Information Act. That was the sort of direction in which Britain should also be going.

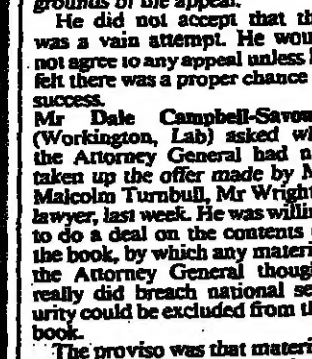
Sir Michael Havers said that section 2 of the Official Secrets Act had played no part in the conduct of the Australian case.

Mr. William Hamilton (Fife Central, Lab) said many people inside and outside the House would regard the Government's decision to appeal as little more than a delaying mechanism.

What was the estimated cost of this farce to the taxpayer? In the light of what had happened to councillors in Liverpool, the Attorney General and the Prime Minister should be discharged in the event of the appeal failing.

Sir Michael Havers said that Mr. Hamilton would have a much stronger case if the Liverpool councillors had been acting on legal advice instead of against it.

## COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

There is no such thing as an insignificant success for a third party in British politics. The two main parties spend most of their time trying to persuade the electorate that they are wise, efficient and caring. A third party has first to convince the voters that it matters at all.

So the Alliance's improbable hat-trick of Oxford, Truro and Greenwich is of national importance, whatever the causes.

The choice of Mr. Roy Jenkins as Oxford's Chancellor was essentially symbolic, in a contest that was only partly political, by an electorate that was hardly representative.

The Liberal triumph at Truro can be attributed mostly, perhaps entirely, to shock and sympathy at David Penhaligon's death. The SDP benefited at Greenwich from tactical voting and a hard left Labour candidate.

## Aura of a party on the move

But all three results captured the headlines and associated the Alliance with success. No matter what the detailed explanations might be in each case, the accumulated effect was to create the aura of a party on the move.

This impression has been reinforced by the opinion polls. The latest ones put the Alliance back where it was before the defence shambles last September. In a critical sense it is even better placed now than it was then.

The defence split has been repaired only on the surface. The divisions in this field between those of Dr. Owen's views and the Liberal "doveish" tendency remain deep. But public attention has been directed elsewhere, and Labour is now slipping badly, whereas before the party conferences it was still in first place.

It is this combination of an Alliance revival and Labour decline that is potentially significant. The less chance there appears to be of a Labour government the more likely is the Alliance to do well in the election.

Its prospects in the critical seats will depend on a good deal upon extracting dissenting Conservatives, who could easily be frightened back into the Tory camp by the fear of putting Mr. Kinnock into Downing Street. The more remote that possibility seems the more readily will this important section of the electorate move over to the Alliance.

There is also now for the first time for some while a prospect of the ideal result for the Alliance. This is usually regarded as a hung Parliament. But that is not what I have in mind.

A hung Parliament would focus attention on the Alliance more than any other outcome. It is a certain glamour in holding the balance of power. But the reality might be rather disappointing.

The other parties might not be so eager to do a deal as the Alliance now claims. So it might end up as a significant when it expected to be wooed.

If others were ready to negotiate, the Alliance might then find itself pulled in different directions. Liberals and Social Democrats might not agree on which party would be the better partner or on what terms would be acceptable.

Even if the Alliance did go into coalition, it might not emerge all that much stronger. It would benefit from the prestige of holding office. But it could be swallowed up by its larger partner or find the arrangement broken just when it suited the other party.

## Serving interests of the Alliance

The long-term interests of the Alliance would be best served by an increase in the number of its seats, another Conservative overall majority and no advance by Labour. Such a result would pose less threat to Alliance cohesion and encourage a belief that Labour could never defeat the Conservatives on its own.

That would strengthen the chances either of a further realignment on the left in the next Parliament, or of a steady but less dramatic drift from Labour.

That would be more likely to happen if the Alliance could win more votes than Labour. That may still seem an ambitious objective. But it would be more of a breakthrough for the Alliance than anything else that can now reasonably be envisaged.

## Tunnel 'will benefit North'

The advantages to the North of England that would come from the Channel tunnel were emphasized by Mr. David Mitchell, Minister for Sea Transport, during Commons questions today. He said there was the possibility of direct through services for passengers and freight by rail.

Dr. Keith Hampson (Leeds North West, C) asked that electrification in the context of the development of the Channel tunnel would be an important factor in preventing northern companies from having to relocate in the South.

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## Minister upset by cuts plan

Mr. Christopher Patten, Minister for Overseas Development, told MPs during Commons questions today that he was concerned to learn of proposals being discussed to reduce undergraduate training at the School of Development Studies at East Anglia University.

He said that he had met his concerns known to the Department of Education and Science and to the University Grants Committee. "Discussions are continuing and I hope they will have a satisfactory outcome."

He was replying to Mr. Stuart Holland, an Opposition spokesman on development, who said that the cuts undertaken by the Government had increased research in tropical development institutes. The whole future of the School of Development Studies was at risk.

## Locusts come under attack

The Government was providing a further £267,000 for locust and grasshopper control in the Gambia, Mali and Sudan, Mr. Christopher Patten, Minister for Overseas Development, said during Commons questions today.

He said that that came after more than £1.5 million committed last month for pesticides, sprayers, vehicles and spares to combat the desert locust plague in eastern Africa. "We stand ready to provide more help if needed."

## Tamils 'not only reason for Bill'

The Bill to provide financial penalties on shipping firms and airlines if they bring to Britain would-be immigrants without proper documentation had been carried by the House of Commons last month - nearly twice the number for all of 1984. Mr. Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said that to the Commons when he moved the second reading of the Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Bill.

Although nearly 500 of that total had come from Sri Lanka, he said, this was not a Bill about Tamils alone.

Its aim was to ensure that United Kingdom immigration control remained effective in the face of rapidly changing international pressures.

"We have to reconcile that aim with our international obligation to help the genuine victims of persecution."

Labour and the Liberals could not have it both ways. They could not proclaim in general terms that they wanted effective control while opposing everything necessary to keep it effective.

There was no point in their agreeing that there must be a backstop, the sole condition that it had plenty of holes in it.

The United Kingdom was not alone in wanting to see immigration controls working efficiently, nor in facing pressures, particularly from the Third World.

"These growing pressures arise from a powerful combination. For the first time, large numbers of people are being moved, the knowledge and the will to leave their own homes in the Third World and seek

## HOME OFFICE

greater security, comfort and prosperity elsewhere. The benefits of new visa arrangements for visitors from the Indian subcontinent and West Africa - which the Government had introduced in the face of much huffing and puffing last year - were now plain. They had reduced congestion at the ports and gone a long way to restoring the effectiveness of control.

In recent months, the United Kingdom had had a new loophole. It came mainly from people in need of visas but who, nevertheless, arrived without them and then resisted immediate return by claiming asylum.

He expected to receive by Wednesday the representations on the cases of the 64 Tamil asylum seekers who arrived in mid-February. In view of that, he could make no comment on them as yet.

The United Kingdom was not alone in facing these pressures. France, Denmark, Sweden, Canada and Belgium all had introduced measures to control asylum abuse and the Dutch were proposing legislation. There had to be sensible international understanding of how to improve arrangements.

A working group on immigration had been set up last year under the United Kingdom presidency of the European Community and that was being carried forward under the Belgian presidency.

Last week the group agreed specific recommendations on much the same lines as those in the Bill.

## Decision to proceed on secrets is defended

In questions, before his announcement that the Government was to appeal in the Wright case, Sir Michael Havers, Attorney General, was welcomed back to the Commons after his illness.

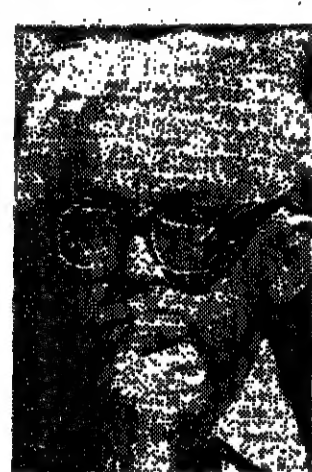
He was asked when he expected to discuss with the Director of Public Prosecutions progress on consideration of possible prosecutions under section 2 of the Official Secrets Act in the present eight outstanding cases.

He replied that when he next met the DPP he would discuss such matters as appeared appropriate.

Mr. Greville Janner (Leicester, West, Lab): Will he learn the lessons from the catastrophic handling of the Wright case? As a result, will there be any prosecutions under section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, and which of the eight will be prosecuted? Do they include Nigel West, alias (Rupert) Aliens, a prospective Conservative candidate?

Sir Michael Havers: I do not accept that it was a catastrophic disaster. It was a principle we were maintaining which we were right to do. Of the eight outstanding cases, two were convicted, two were dropped and the rest are awaiting final consideration.

Mr. Eric Forth (Mid Worcestershire, C): Does he appreciate how much support there is for the principle that those who sign the Official Secrets Act and go on to break it, particularly for commercial gain, should be prosecuted and prevented? Anything he and his department do in that way will have outright support on this side.



Mr. Michael Foot: "Conspiracy against Government"

Sir Michael Havers: That, in a nutshell, is the principle behind the case.

Mr. Michael Foot (Bhamo, Gwent, Lab): If it is true, as alleged in some reports, and in the Wright book, that people from MI5 were engaged in a conspiracy against the elected Government, is that a matter of principle, and what steps were taken to ensure that it was not repeated?

Sir Michael Havers: I think I can most appropriately refer him to an answer by the then Prime Minister (Mr. James Callaghan).

Mr. Geoffrey Rippon (Hexham, C): Most MPs will welcome what he has just said. The operations of the secret service must remain secret, and that involves a lifelong duty of trust. Sir Michael Havers: I welcome that and I am surprised that

there appears to be so many on the Opposition side who cannot accept that.

Mr. John Morris, Chief Opposition spokesman on legal affairs: What is the primary consideration for prosecuting - damage to national security or political embarrassment?

Does he maintain that there has been consistency of approach towards Tisdall, Penton and other cases like West, Pincher, Lord Rothschild, and the security men who may have leaked to them? Section 2 has been virtually put out of grass and replaced as a damage limitation exercise by actions for breach of confidentiality.

Sir Michael Havers: He keeps on using words like prosecution. These are civil proceedings in Australia.

In fact the principle which has been brought out so clearly today is that in the action in Australia it has been the objective of this Government to ensure that once a man joins the service and has promised to keep secret for life what he finds out, that should be maintained.

Mr. Tam Dalyell asked what steps had been taken after the Australian hearing to find out what had induced Lord Rothschild to pay money for Wright to come to Britain to be introduced to Chapman Pincher. Why go for Wright and not Rothschild?

Sir Michael Havers: There is no question of any decision having been taken on Lord Rothschild. Police inquiries are not complete. The Director of Public Prosecutions has no report. Mr. Dalyell fails to distinguish between insider and outsider books.

## Scottish rates reform Councils begin Lords battle

By Sheila Conn

Scottish and English local authorities have launched a strong campaign in the House of Lords to persuade peers that the Bill to reform the Scottish rating system will prove unworkable.

The Bill, which replaces Scottish rates with a "poll tax", is expected to receive a second reading in the Lords today. It paves the way for a similar reform in England and Wales if Mrs. Margaret Thatcher wins a third election.

The Commons, with a large Conservative majority, had little chance of changing the Bill. But in the Lords the Government has less power to stop a determined attempt to redraft it, especially as there is a large contingent of Scottish peers on the Conservative benches and on the Independent cross-benches who need to be convinced that the reform will be a failure.

The peers also have the ability to influence the final shape of the Bill because of the Government's eagerness to get it on the statute book before the general election.

A tight timetable has been drawn up to get the Bill through the Lords by mid-May. Senior ministers have said they are not willing to see the reform sacrificed for the sake of a May general election, but it is expected to be through in time for Mrs. Thatcher to have the chance of calling a June election.

The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (Cosla), with the English local council associations, is pressing the peers to make important changes to the Bill.



Lord Selkirk: System "needs energetic examination"

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The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (Cosla), with the English local council associations, is pressing the peers to make important changes to the Bill.

Cosla predicted that it would be an administrative nightmare to track down all

the individuals on the electoral register.

"The most effective way to do this would be door to door. But that is the most expensive way. Under the current rating system the costs for collection in Scotland are £20 million a year. The new system would be double or two-and-a-half times that."

Cosla welcomed the fact that the Government had dropped the idea of a transitional period when the community charge and rates would run in tandem.

But it would be pressing peers to delay the reform by one year, until April 1990, to give councils more time to get the electoral register up to date and to computerize the system.

Lord Selkirk, a leading Conservative Scottish peer, said yesterday that the reform was a tremendous step forward because it took taxes off houses.

"There are hundreds of difficulties in the new system and it needs an energetic examination", he said. "Many people will complain that it is grinding the faces of the poor - which is nonsense. But the advantages of taking taxes off housing are enormous."

## Motorways are being reviewed

A better motorway network was necessary to improve Britain's industrial efficiency, Mr. David Knox (Staffordshire, Moorlands, C) said when he was told during Commons questions that spending on motorway construction had declined but that the programme was to be reviewed.

Mr. John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, had said that spending on building motorways had been reduced from £323 million in 1983-84 to £171 million in 1985-86, reflecting the switch to trunk road improvements, particularly by-passes.

He added that capital investment in roads was nearly 30 per cent higher in real terms than in 1978-79. He told Mr. Knox that the 30 per cent figure was in real terms because it encompassed a switch to trunk roads and by-passes, but he understood the MP's point.

Motorways do help economic development so I am reviewing the programme and hope to make some announcements in the spring.

He said later that since 1979, 308 miles of new all-purpose trunk road had been completed, beyond the motorway figures. A total of 67 by-passes had been completed.

## Motorways are being reviewed

The privatization of the British Airports Authority, planned for June-July this year, was progressing well, Mr. John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, said during Commons questions today.

Mr. Peter Hubbard-Miles (Bridgend, C) had asked if special arrangements had been made in the privatization of the employees to obtain shares.

Mr. Moore said the 70,200 employees would be involved in the issue. They would be eligible for shares at no cost at the time of flotation and the Government would provide two free shares for each share purchased by an employee up to a maximum of £400 worth of free shares for £200 purchased.

Employees and pensioners of BAA would be able to apply on a priority basis for shares in the offer.

Mr. Robert Hughes, chief Opposition spokesman on Transport, asked if the Government had learnt anything from the British Airways sale, where a great deal of public money had been lost.

Mr. Moore said that the Government had learnt from the successful privatization of British Airways. It was now trying to discover which the Opposition feared most, a further successful

## Employees to get BAA sale 'bonus'

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## Parliament today

Commons (2.30): The Budget. Lords (2.30): Abolition of Domestic Rates etc. (Scotland) Bill, second reading.



## Book early to beat rush, minister tells tourists to Britain

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Britain is preparing for an upsurge in tourists this summer.

The biggest increase in visitors is expected to be from America where thousands, put off last year because of terrorism and Chernobyl, once again make Britain their number one holiday destination.

Mr Michael Spicer, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Transport, is so confident of a big upsurge that he is flying to New York to warn travel agents to ensure that their clients book early and do not concentrate on London.

Mr Spicer said yesterday: "The British tourist industry is buoyant and over two million visitors are expected from North America alone."

"I will be reminding holidaymakers not to restrict their activities to London alone, and that there are a vast range of historical and scenic delights further afield in the United Kingdom that are too good to miss."

One of the by-products of the tourist boom is the continuing spiral in the price of a hotel room.

Some London hotels now charge up to £150 a night for a single room, and American

travel firms are now basing many of their tours in the Midlands with only a quick trip to the capital.

North Atlantic airlines both in Britain and America are rapidly filling the scheduled summer flights with British Airways leading the way.

But although the newly privatized airline is outselling other carriers across the Atlantic, Mr Spicer and a team of Department of Transport officials are anxious to negotiate an even better deal for British airlines.

They are particularly concerned at the "unfairness" of computer reservation systems in the US which give American carriers far greater prominence in the computer than their British rivals.

### Plea for more Euro-flights

A holiday entrepreneur yesterday spelt out his motivation for launching 11 new scheduled air routes throughout Europe in one word... profit.

Mr Harry Goodman, who is applying to add a network of cut-price scheduled business services to his profitable and

successful charter airline, Air Europe, told the Civil Aviation Authority: "The concern of my company is one word, profit. It can be no concern of mine what affect my application has on the efficiency or otherwise of other airlines."

"We want not only to make a profit for our group but to give the consumer a real choice when he flies from Gatwick."

During the next week he and his officials will be challenged by British Caledonian and Dan Air to prove that his ambitious plans will not only fit in with government policy, but will result in profit for the whole industry.

Air Europe, he said, had just signed for 10 new aircraft to operate the services from Gatwick in direct competition to those already being flown by other British airlines.

Under his scheme Air Europe would be given licences to operate to a wide range of European cities.

But British Caledonian has similar plans. It has applied for five routes for which it once held licences but was unable to operate because inter-governmental agreement could not be reached.

## Monroe's sequins for sale



Hollywood came to the West End of London yesterday when the showgirl's outfit worn by the late Marilyn Monroe (above) in the 1956 film *Bus Stop* was modelled by Vicky Scott outside Sotheby's in New Bond Street.

The green satin outfit with black sequins and a net tail will be included in Sotheby's sale of costumes and textiles on May 15 and is expected to fetch more than £10,000 (Contemporary photograph: Chris Harris).

## Peer's son appears on charges of dishonesty

Committal proceedings against Ernest Harry Shinwell, accused of dishonestly obtaining cash and property including a Rolls-Royce, started yesterday at Guildhall Magistrates' Court, London.

The son of Lord Shinwell, the late Labour peer, Mr Shinwell, a business consultant, of Melrose Avenue, Willesden, north-west London, is alleged to have induced, by deception, Space Action, trading as Chartavia, to forgo payment of \$6.25 million (£4.2 million) on March 27, 1984 at the Yorkshire Bank, Cheapside.

Charges include that on August 19, 1983, he procured dishonestly a £12,500 cheque from James Crosby by falsely representing Overseas Holdings was in a position to fund a Sierra Leone gold and mining development.

Mr Shinwell is also accused of dishonestly obtaining a Rolls-Royce from Esbury Ltd with intent to deprive by pretending a bill of exchange for \$250,000 was genuine and valid and, on March 6, 1984, while an undischarged bankrupt, he dishonestly obtained by deception a Bentley car from Geoffrey Walker, pretending he genuinely intended to buy a \$5.25 million aircraft. The hearing, for which reporting restrictions were not lifted, continues today.

## Surgeons use lasers to unblock arteries

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

Laser beam surgery will be used to unblock the coronary arteries of heart disease patients in a hospital in Leeds.

The technique is being developed by specialists at Killingbeck Hospital in the first project of its kind in Britain.

Lasers will be used first on patients with blocked arteries in the leg, where the blood vessels are long and straight.

Work will then start on the more complex task of unblocking the smaller, curved arteries leading to the heart.

Blockages can be vaporized with powerful miniature laser blasts. Lasers are already used in surgery for a number of other illnesses and for cutting in heart operations.

British heart specialists are interested in the use of lasers but some express caution because of the lack of evidence showing long-term benefits to coronary disease patients.

The Killingbeck team, led by Dr Michael Rees, a consultant cardiac radiologist, is being supported by the National Heart Research Fund, based at Halifax.

Dr Rees said yesterday: "The trials we are carrying out will mean a significant step forward in finding effective treatment for many people."

## Sharp rise in homes for sale

By Christopher Worman Property Correspondent

A sharp increase in the number of properties coming on to the housing market last month shows a confident market and confirms expectations of a healthy spring for both buyers and sellers, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors says in its latest house price survey.

Reports of a "starting growth of activity since Christmas" come from some of the 175 estate agents polled in England and Wales for the quarter ending February 28. They had an average of 124 homes for sale each, compared with 105 in January.

The average number of sales negotiated remains steady at 46, although the increase in homes on the market is likely to be reflected in next month's figures.

Prices are gradually easing upwards, with nearly half the agents reporting increases of up to 2 per cent.

Mr Peter Miller, institution housing market spokesman, says that confidence in the market has been increased by Budget expectations.

"The RICS has for some time called for the abolition of what it considers an arbitrary system of placing a tax threshold on property above £30,000."

"Its expected rise to £35,000 will undoubtedly help some first-time buyers and this, along with the projected reduction in income tax, will free still more money into the market."

## MPs face cut-backs on travel

By Martin Fletcher Political Reporter

Expenses-paid foreign travel by MPs could be pruned under a proposal being considered by the liaison committee of select committee chairmen.

The proposal, which is already encountering opposition, is that only four MPs from any one committee should pursue inquiries abroad unless there is a pressing reason for more to go.

Each select committee now vies for a share of the £327,000 allocated annually for overseas travel. Committees will, if lucky, obtain the money for one big trip a year and almost all members will go.

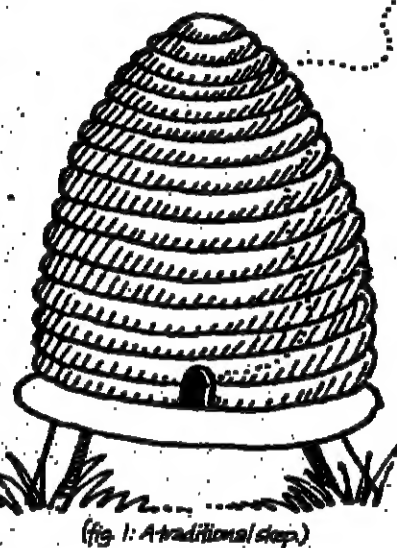
Supporters of the new proposal believe that by limiting numbers many more trips could be made for the same overall cost. They also believe smaller numbers would lead to more flexible and more incisive investigations.

Recent figures show that, for example, eight MPs and a clerk on the procedure committee spent £12,500 last year visiting the Canadian parliament on an inquiry into the use of time in the Commons, and that the Welsh committee spent nearly £3,000 taking eight MPs and staff to The Netherlands on an inquiry into tourism.

The limit will be opposed by those who enjoy "junkies" and by those who argue that all committee members should have the same access to information to facilitate unanimous reports.

## The benefits of the IBM 6150 UNIX multi-user RISC-based Micro Computer, with 5.6 gigabyte memory 4.5 M.L.P processor and 16 megabyte RAM.

AS EXPLAINED BY A BEEKEEPER.



(fig. 1: A traditional skep.)

For so work the honey-bees, Creatures that by a rule in nature teach The act of order to a peopled kingdom.

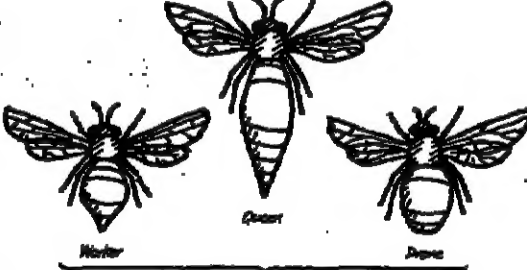
Shakespeare, Henry V, Act I, scene ii.

Observing the bees at work today it struck me that the humble hive has more turnover, more profit, less overheads and is run more efficiently than any business in the world.

The IBM 6150 System creates the same effect by linking the various functions of a company together.

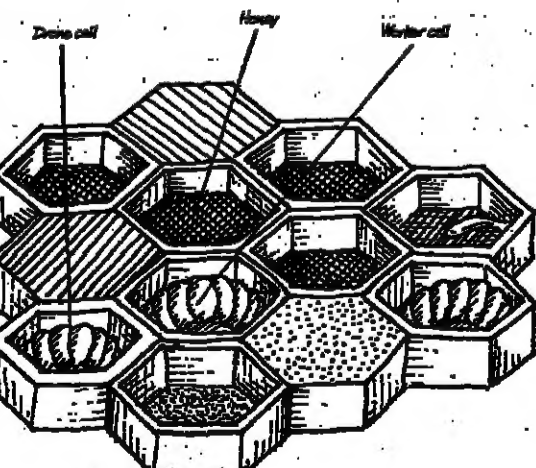
Judging by the way the bees cluster round her it's obvious that the Queen provides a centre of control at the heart of the hive.

As Managing Director she delegates to both workers and drones.



(fig. 2: Apis Mellifera.)

Much the same way as an IBM 6150. It has a powerful database to provide access for multiple terminals, so different departments can interact miles apart (an improvement over the Queen bee who stays close to home).



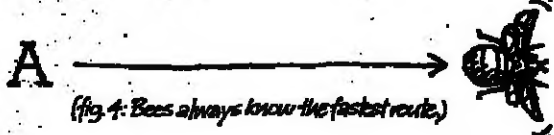
(fig. 3: Honeycomb detail.)

The bees are drowsy in this heat so I was able to get a closer look at the thousands of honeycomb cells which store the hive's resources.

The 6150 has a rather more impressive disk storage of 5.6 gigabytes, enough for an entire company.

Even as I write, new cells are being built and filled as the hive grows.

With memory increased to 16 megabytes the 6150 also gives you plenty of room to expand.



(fig. 4: Bees always know the fastest route.)

While pottering in the garden I noticed that contrary to popular belief bees do not buzz about aimlessly but always take the most direct route. They never stop to smell the roses unless there is nectar to be had.

With a 6150, data makes a beeline direct to your terminal due to reduced instruction set coding (RISC) which eliminates unnecessary paths in a computer.

Once a bee is on the scent of something good I think he becomes one of nature's swiftest creatures!

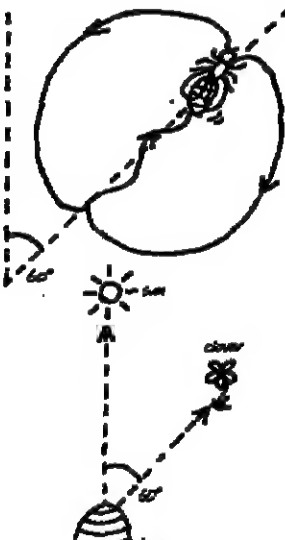
But nothing like as quick as the 6150 with a processor that sends information to you at 4.5 million instructions per second. A bee would approve.

From buttercups to bonage the garden daily tempts the bees hither.



(fig. 5: A bee's favourite pastime.)

And as a bee flits from flower to flower, the compatible 6150 runs over 300 software programs from accountancy to graphic design because it runs AIX, an enhanced version of UNIX.



(fig. 6: The waggle dance tells where the clover lies.)

After weeks of waiting I was rewarded today by a rare glimpse of the waggle dance in full swing. For when a scout bee has vital news, like where a patch of covetable clover lies, he telegraphs the fact by wiggling his tail in a dance all the bees understand.

Bees can only buzz with other bees, but a 6150 with SNA and Ethernet communications can relay needed information to an entire network of computer users from PCs to mainframes, all at the same time.

This 'bee bob' was a call to action and within seconds the bees scrambled for take-off.

Similarly, the fast reaction of a 6150 means many tasks can be coordinated effectively between departments.



(fig. 7: An Apiarist at work.)

Such a frost last night, I woke with the lark to make sure the hives were dry and that the bees weren't feeling the cold.

The dedication of an IBM 6150 dealer is no less vigilant. He's expert at helping to keep your business humming along.

My greatest delight is tasting the first honey of the season. It fills me with renewed admiration for the teamwork of the hive.



(fig. 8: This year's surplus.)

The 6150 also unifies your company's resources to produce results.

I note with some pride that so far the hive has produced three more honey-pots than last year. If this keeps up it will truly be a splendid season.

If you'd like to turn your business into a hive of industry, please fill in this coupon.

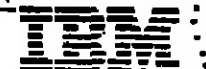
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## Lawyers and computers: 2 City firms tune in to data networks

In the second of two articles on computers and the law, Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent, looks at how lawyers' offices are changing.

Computers are moving into the traditionally antiquated workplaces of lawyers. Several big city firms of solicitors have embarked on million pound technology programmes and increasing numbers of barristers' chambers are becoming computerized.

MacFarlanes, a medium-sized city firm with some 30 partners, has just bought a £1 million word processing and data processing system which will result in 100 desk top terminals.

Mr Vanni Treves, the senior partner, says: "The increased competition has brought enormous pressure to have all the latest equipment to be efficient. The clients expect it."

A slightly larger city firm with some 40 partners, Theodore Goddard, is typical of what such firms are up to: it has just spent close to £1 million on a technology programme aimed at improving communications, producing documents, storing and retrieving data and for accounting and time recording (such as how long a call takes to a client).

It has a new sophisticated telephone system, allowing three-way conversations between partners and clients and which logs calls and costs them. It also has telex and machines for facsimile transmission (fax).

In the firm's library there is also a terminal where lawyers can call up one of the legal data bases which store cases,

such as Lexis, Lawtel or Jordans (on company law).

Small firms which make up the bulk of the profession cannot afford technology of that kind but many are now buying word processors as well as, recently, fax machines.

There is also now British Telecom's Network for Law, an electronic mail system based on Telecom Gold, which has some 200 solicitors. On this they can send telexes and messages, amend documents and watch a law society bulletin board with updates on new laws and tax reforms.

At the Bar in the past year the number of chambers with computers is thought to have doubled to about 100 out of the total of 350.

The Temple chambers at Fountain Court - a mix of commercial and common law - is fairly typical of those commercial sets of chambers moving with the times, in 1981 it had word processors, by 1983 it had computerized accounts.

But now, with the arrival of the crown prosecution service and new ways of paying barristers' fees, computers are moving in to the criminal Bar.

The Government's aim to move towards more pretrial hearings to cut the cost of full trials will also increase reliance on computers, according to Mr Henry Brooke, QC, last year's chairman of the Senate's computer committee.

Concluded.



## Howe proposes radical rethink of European defence policies

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Against a background of swiftly evolving nuclear arms control prospects and growing pressure in Washington for a reduced American military presence in Europe, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday called for a radical rethink of long-held assumptions about defence.

He stressed the continuing role of Nato as guarantor of European security. But in an unmistakable warning that Europe must learn to rely on itself, Sir Geoffrey put forward a controversial proposal for a European defence strategy centred on the almost forgotten Western European Union (WEU) and based on both European conventional forces and the British and French nuclear deterrents.

The proposal is seen as especially significant in the light of Mrs Thatcher's visit to Moscow in 10 days' time, which is likely to be dominated by Mr Gorbachev's recent acceptance of Nato's "zero-zero" option in intermediate range nuclear forces (INF). Moscow says this could lead within six months to the withdrawal of all "Euro-missiles" — SS20s on the Soviet side and American cruise and Pershing 2 on the Nato side. It is still not clear how such a deal would affect the deterrents.

Sir Geoffrey, attending an EEC foreign ministers' meeting, told the Brussels Institute of International Relations that the American contribution to European security remained vital, in the shape of both the overall nuclear shield and the 350,000 US troops in Europe. America and Europe were inextricably linked and "decoupling would be perverse".

But Europe had to face the fact that Washington was preoccupied with the Pacific, south-west Asia and Central America, and "Europe no longer dominates American thinking".

The WEU, founded in 1954,

should be strengthened and broadened beyond its membership of seven (Britain plus the six original EEC founder members — France, West Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Luxembourg and Italy), Sir Geoffrey said.

Previous attempts to revive the WEU, notably in Rome three years ago, have floundered, partly due to American hostility. Britain's intervention could be decisive. It coincides with a growing readiness in Paris to acknowledge that the French nuclear deterrent exists to protect West Germany as well as France itself.

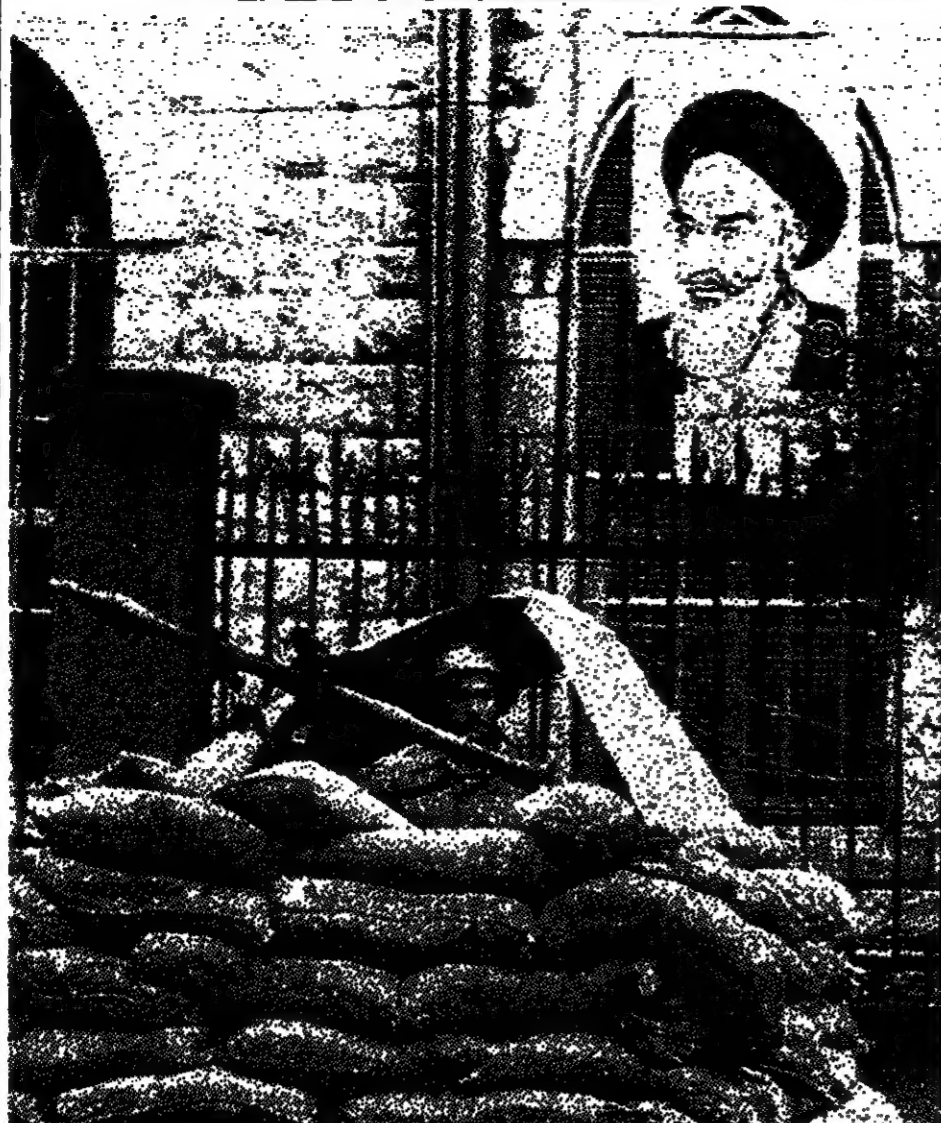
Sir Geoffrey said that the French no longer thought in terms of "national sanctuaries" but were ready to discuss ways in which French forces could be involved in "Europe's common defence".

Sir Geoffrey appeared to dismiss suggestions that the 12 EEC states could evolve a defence policy, with EEC foreign policy acquiring "a full security dimension". The WEU was a more appropriate forum. The recently revised Treaty of Rome, the EEC's founding document, provides for a security policy, but the obstacles include Ireland's determinedly neutral status.

"We need to be alert to trends in American thinking which might diminish our security in the longer term," Sir Geoffrey said. To doubt America's commitment when there were hundreds of thousands of American troops in Europe was to "turn fancy into fear". But the Europeans had to contribute more, and he cited both the steady erosion of Belgian defence spending and Spain's reservations about its commitment to European (rather than Spanish) defence as a matter of concern.

"A Europe which gets its own ideas straight is a far more rewarding partner for the US and is far more likely to have its views taken seriously," Sir Geoffrey said.

## Two faces of Syrian-occupied Beirut



Under the mesmeric gaze of Ayatollah Khomeini, a Syrian soldier of the Special Forces shelters from the rain under metal sheeting outside the American University in west Beirut.

## Amal's gamble on war in south

From Robert Fisk Beirut

The presence of 7,500 Syrian troops in west Beirut has prompted the Shia Muslim Amal militia to devote renewed energy to its war against the Israelis who are still occupying a strip of territory in southern Lebanon.

Mr Nabih Berri, the Amal leader, has authorized a renewal of guerrilla attacks in the south although the Israelis, according to reports in Beirut, have already sent him a warning through the United Nations.

Sheikh Mehdi Shamseddin, Lebanon's most senior Shia cleric, said last night that the life of M. Normandin, the French hostage, would "probably" be spared after "difficult negotiations" he had conducted with the captors.

Nations that further assaults on their soldiers will result in Israeli attacks on Shia villages north of the occupation zone.

After months of relative inactivity in the south, Amal has claimed responsibility for the killing of an Israeli officer. Yesterday it said it had entered the Israeli occupation zone and captured a member of Israel's proxy "South Lebanon Army" militia.

Mr Berri's latest enthusiasm for the war in the south, however, is not quite as straightforward as it might seem. Amal's failure to crush PLO guerrillas in the Palestinian camps in Beirut and Tyre had already tarnished its image, while internal dissensions within the movement in southern Lebanon — where Amal officials staged a near-mutiny against Mr Berri — threatened to destroy the organization. A renewed guerrilla war against the Israelis and their allies provides a much-needed diversion.

Meanwhile, in west Beirut yesterday considerable prominence was given in the Lebanese press to a statement by Sheikh Muhammad Hussein Fadlallah, one of the most important spiritual guides within Hezbollah, appealing for the life of M. Jean-Louis Normandin, the French television technician whose captors were threatening to murder him.

"You cannot obstruct the policy of a (French) President by executing a kidnapping victim," he said. "This is meaningless. If he is innocent, on what basis do we threaten to execute him? And if he was not innocent, why was he not tried at the start?"

M. Normandin's kidnappers, who belong to the self-styled Revolutionary Justice Organization, had threatened to put their prisoner on "trial" unless President Mitterrand clarified from the French government he had made about French arms sales to Iraq and Syria's presence in west Beirut. Sheikh Fadlallah's prestige is such that his intervention may well have prevented M. Normandin's murder.

## WORLD SUMMARY

### Factory blast in China kills 47

Peking (AFP) — An explosion rocked a textile factory in Harbin, north-eastern China, killing 47 people and injuring 179, according to reports here yesterday.

The official New China News Agency said that the explosion occurred in the carding, drawing and spinning workshops at the flax mill, the largest in Asia.

The *Legal Daily* said that four workshops had been destroyed and that about 470 people were working at the plant when the blast happened.

The news agency reported that an accumulation of flax dust could have caused the explosion. Firemen were joined by about 1,000 police and soldiers, who worked for more than three hours to extinguish the blaze.

### Apartheid still rules

Geneva — The structure of racial discrimination in South Africa remains basically unchanged, according to a four-member mission from the International Commission of Jurists (Alan McGregor writes).

The mission said after a three-week visit: "There is no indication that the will of the ruling party in South Africa to retain power in the hands of the white minority is in any way diminished."

### Czechs to face trial

Vienna (Reuters) — A man who tried to stand as an independent candidate in Czechoslovakia's single-state general election last year will be put on trial today for incitement, emigration sources said.

Mr Pavel Vozka, an ethnic German, will be tried together with his brother Jiri, who is charged with writing various appeals against acts of bureaucracy. They face up to three years in prison if found guilty.

### Protest over bishop

Santiago — The Chilean military Government has decided to protest formally to the Vatican about recent comments by Mgr Carlos Camas, the Chilean bishop (Lake Sagaris writes).

Mgr Camas's remarks in an interview in *El Mercurio* last week, which contained outspoken criticisms of the Government's human rights violations and in which he called himself a "dissident", touched off controversy between the bishop's supporters and the 13-year-old military Government of President Pinochet.

### Monthly leave plea

Manila — A Philippine women's organization is asking the Government for legislation allowing them time off work when they are menstruating (Reuters reports).

The Movement of Women Workers, which has 15,000 members, says it will ask the Labour Department for at least two days' leave a month with pay. Existing laws already allow up to 45 days' leave for births, miscarriages and abortions.

### Soldiers' bail veto

Nairobi (Reuters) — A Kenyan court yesterday rejected bail applications by two British soldiers who had been appealing against their conviction for a night club brawl.

Corporal Paul Walker was sentenced to one year in prison and three strokes of the cane, while his companion, Private Sean Hughes, was given three months for disorderly conduct by a magistrates' court in Nairobi on February 23.

### US accused of delay

Moscow — Mr Andronik Petrosyants, chief Soviet negotiator at Geneva talks on nuclear testing, has told *Pravda* that the US is trying to lead discussions into a dead end (A Correspondent writes). His comment coincided with talks between Mr Michael Armacost, US Undersecretary of State, and Mr Yuri Vorontsov, right, a Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, as negotiations reopened yesterday in Geneva.



### White youth jailed

Johannesburg — In a judgement likely to arouse fresh controversy about the tendency of courts here to punish white violence against blacks less severely than the reverse, an 18-year-old white youth was sentenced in Pretoria yesterday to a jail term of five years, of which half is suspended, for killing a black servant (Michael Hornsby writes).

Johan Hendrik Breytenbach was convicted of homicide for driving his car over Mrs Maria Rametsi "to scare her" as she lay sleeping in a suburban park. The magistrate accepted that the accused had not driven deliberately over the woman.

## Reagan aims to boost image with TV press conference

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan is planning to give his first full-scale televised press conference in four months on Thursday, in an effort to demonstrate that he is fully in command of his Administration and has resolutely put the Iran scandal behind him.

Apart from brief replies to occasional shouted questions, Mr Reagan has not answered reporters' questions on the Iran affair or any other subject since November 19, when he gave a press conference regarded as little short of disastrous.

Mr Reagan flatly denied then that he had ever traded arms for hostages, and said no third country was involved in the deal, a claim quickly corrected by the White House.

Mr Reagan has since twice broadcast on the affair — in a brief but effective television address two weeks ago, and in his radio speech on Saturday,

when he admitted he had been wrong on Iran.

Congressmen of both parties have said that Mr Reagan must now hold a press conference to demonstrate that he is able to deal with issues without having to rely on a prepared text.

Mr Donald Regan, the former White House Chief of Staff, repeatedly asked him to call a press conference last month, and quarrelled openly with Mrs Nancy Reagan.

Mrs Reagan, aware of the poor impression her husband gave last time, insisted he should not appear before the sharp-tongued White House press corps until he had fully recovered from his prostrate operation and had time to prepare himself.

Meanwhile, controversy has erupted over a claim that Mr Manucher Ghorbanifar, an Iranian arms dealer, used Ms Barbara Walters, a veteran

ABC television correspondent, to pass on secretly to President Reagan his views about the arms sale to Iran.

Ms Walters interviewed him and Mr Adnan Khashoggi, a Saudi businessman, in December soon after the scandal broke.

ABC said that afterwards she prepared an internal memo outlining Mr Ghorbanifar's private statements, and sent this to the White House at his request. An ABC spokesman said the network was consulted first, and this was "rather unusual".

Ms Walters said that some of Mr Ghorbanifar's information dealt with alleged payment to Iranian officials. She "felt terrible" about acting as an intermediary, but believed it important that Mr Reagan receive the information.

The memorandum was not mentioned by the Tower Commission.

## Moi secures £50m UK aid

By Andrew McEwen Diplomatic Correspondent

President Moi of Kenya yesterday received a warmer reception in Britain than he had last week in Washington.

After pointed questions asked by the State Department about human rights in Kenya, it must have been a relief to the President to find that Whitehall had totally different priorities.

He was received by the Queen after signing an agreement with Mrs Thatcher under which Britain will provide a further £50 million in aid.

The £200 million Britain has given over the last six

years is only a fraction of the total stake. British companies have about £1 billion invested there and UK exports to Kenya exceed those to any black African country except Nigeria. The money will be spent on developing Kenyan agriculture, natural resources, transport and energy supplies.

The level of ministerial contacts has been exceptionally high. President Moi saw Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, last week before flying to Washington. He met Mr Christopher Patten, Minister for Overseas Development, yesterday.

Nothing emerged to suggest

that allegations of torture of opposition suspects by the Kenyan police were discussed.

Kenya's status as a "most favoured nation" has so far been unaffected by the allegations, the official Whitehall line being that its overall human rights record remains fairly good.

This contrasts with the stance taken by the US State Department when President Moi was in Washington meeting President Reagan. The department urged the Kenyan Government to investigate the allegations, departing from the practice of avoiding embarrassing visiting leaders.

Photograph, page 4

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## Firms using agencies to do the sacking as Japan's jobless increase

From David Watts, Tokyo

Japan is facing a new phenomenon — unemployment on a scale it has not experienced since the end of the war.

And, amid a growing stream of redundancies in Japanese manufacturing industries, a new business, euphemistically called "outplacement", is gathering strength. It means companies specialising in firing employees for Japanese corporations.

In Japan, where a college graduate has until now joined a firm for life, workers and executives from their early forties onward are being dismissed. The lifetime employment system, considered a major strength of Japanese management and one of the secrets of its success, is shown to be just as vulnerable as anything in the West during hard times.

The lifetime employment system makes unemployment, a traumatic experience anywhere, doubly difficult because the Japanese have always been expected to put the company before family and outside interests. But unlike the West, where concern for the individual makes managers go a long way towards softening the blow, the difficulty of dealing with dismissal face-to-face makes the Japanese method of dismissing workers seem all the more inhuman.

Decades of loyalty seem to count for nothing. A senior manager with Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries (IHI), who helped build the company into a key element in

Japan's dominance of world shipbuilding in the 1960s and 1970s, was given two months to clear his desk.

He was not called into the managing director's office and thanked for his service but treated as just one in an entire department the company decided to abolish because it was losing money. A list of the doomed employees was handed to an outplacement agency and it was left to the firm to extract them from IHI and to try to find them other jobs.

The process has to be slow and diplomatic. The first time the outplacement agency man meets his client, the latter has no inkling of what is about to happen. By the second or third meeting, the subject is discussed and the suddenly jobless executive is often consumed with the anger of betrayal.

In Japan, where work is akin to religion and nonconformity a fate worse than death, one outplacement agency in Tokyo caters to the shame felt by the unemployed. The unemployed person can leave the house at 7:30 am every day as usual, and say all day at the agency, doing nothing.

"Now the ugly side of Japanese management is beginning to come out," one outplacement manager said. He estimates that already some 350,000 executives have lost their jobs, in addition to blue-collar staff.

Country-wide, government agencies believe there are perhaps two million people in industry who really do not

have jobs. To protect their dignity a parallel system of ranks is set up, but with the strong yen and Japanese companies seeking production bases abroad, many companies can no longer afford such niceties.

Japanese companies have long been overmanned. After the oil shocks of the early 1970s, firms tried to reduce their staffing levels, but the economy recovered quickly and pressures to slim down were eased. Since the need to phase out uncompetitive heavy industries became clear, managers have gone to extraordinary lengths to diversify or trim expenses to stave off dismissal.

Steelworkers have found themselves running coffee shops, shipbuilders making structures for Buddhist temples. But now it is no longer possible to go on absorbing the cost of unwanted labour as Japan's economy begins to shed much of its shipbuilding capacity and the remnants of its coal and textile industries.

The Government estimates that unemployment is now a record 3 per cent but that estimate is too low. This is because the criteria for unemployment are different to those in the West.

Because of the way Japan counts its jobless total the real rate of unemployment is probably more like double the government figure when analysed according to Western standards. In Japan a person is considered employed if he or she has worked a single hour in any week.

## Weinberger woos Spain



Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Secretary of Defense, right, putting his point of view to King Juan Carlos during their brief meeting at the Zarzuela Palace in Madrid yesterday.

From Harry Debelius Madrid

King Juan Carlos could spare only 10 minutes for Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Secretary of Defense, in Madrid yesterday.

The brief duration of Mr Weinberger's courtesy call suggested that the monarch, who recently advised "tact and prudence" in Spain's negotiations about the level of its participation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and about the reduction of the US military presence in Spain, was practising what he has preached.

On his arrival on Sunday night from Washington, the Secretary of Defense remarked, in answer to a reporter's question, that he expects conditions surrounding the negotiations on the future of bases used by the United States to improve after his visit. He made no further comment.

Only a few hours before his arrival, police and Spanish Air Force troops clashed with demonstrators who marched to the base at nearby Torrejón, calling for the expulsion of American forces and for Spain to get out of Nato.

## Greek anger at US rewards to Turks hinders bases deal

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Energetic American efforts to reward Turkey for agreeing to renew the arrangement on US military bases on its soil are infuriating the Greeks, who see Washington's blandishments to the Turks as a provocative anti-Greek campaign.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Secretary of Defense, who this week is touring southern European states which have US bases, including Turkey, was made to understand that he would be unwelcome in Athens after he described the role of the Turkish forces occupying northern Cyprus as defensive.

Other high-ranking American officials testified at the same congressional hearings that the Turks had a legitimate right to upgrade the old American tanks their Army keeps in Cyprus. Athens saw these statements as a reversal of earlier US condemnations of the Turkish occupation of northern Cyprus.

For the Greeks, the implications could be far-reaching. The Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974 is the symbolic root of their security concerns in the Aegean.

Any American statement condoning this Turkish act increases Greek alarm over Turkish intentions in the Aegean. To guard against this perceived threat, the Greeks have been relying on keeping US security aid to Greece and Turkey in a ratio of seven to 10, as a means of preserving the military balance in the Aegean. The US Government has refused to be tied down to any ratios.

Now Athens fears that Washington's new benevolence towards Turkey betrays a plot to upset the ratio.

The malaise in US-Greek relations coincides with growing Greek-Turkish tension in the Aegean.

The climate here was aggravated by remarks made by Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish Prime Minister, who is recovering from open heart surgery in Houston, Texas.

Speaking at a local Press Club dinner, he said: "The only thing that can force the Greeks to compromise is a strong Turkey."

Against this background Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, told the Americans over the weekend that he would halt the "step by step" process for normalizing US-Greek relations unless the seven-to-10 ratio in aid grants to Greece and Turkey is respected.

The US-Greek rapprochement, begun just over 18 months ago, was assumed to be leading eventually to the renewal of the US bases agreement which expires at the end of 1988. Mr Papandreu had promised Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, that these negotiations would be completed before the end of 1987, but they have not even begun.

The Americans are already growing impatient enough to stimulate fears that the Socialist Prime Minister of Greece may be planning a gamble by refusing to negotiate on the bases and recapture the left-wing vote before springing a surprise general election later this year or early next.

Leading article, page 13

### Economic crisis in Africa

## Zambia banks on rescue by IMF

From Paul Valley, Lusaka

The strategy by which the governments of the West have sought to revitalize the flailing economies of Africa is coming under severe stress here in Zambia, where the Government is today due to conclude negotiations with a team from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The two sides are trying to agree on a rescue package in an attempt to salvage something from the wreckage of what was, until comparatively recently, the IMF's showcase "adjustment" programme in Africa.

Dramatic food riots in December, in which 15 people died and some \$10 million (£6.4 million) worth of damage was done by rampaging mobs in the once-prosperous Copper Belt, put paid to the IMF-inspired austerity programme. President Kaunda was panicked into a humiliating television broadcast in which he announced that he was reversing his decision to remove the subsidy on the staple food, maize meal. Within weeks he also announced the suspension of the foreign currency auction which had previously brought a swift series of devaluations totalling more than 600 per cent.

The restoration of the food subsidy alone will cost the Government more than \$50 million this year. The suspension of the currency auction will starve Zambia of the foreign currency necessary for the purchase of vital imports, including fuel, spare parts and raw materials, and for its crucial export-earning industries. With them the two main planks of the IMF platform have collapsed.

At independence Zambia was perhaps the most prosperous state in black Africa. But the substantial revenues from its copper mines were a mixed blessing, they enabled the development of a welfare state which was the envy of its neighbours, but they also disguised the fact that the controlled economy was being run with enormous inefficiency.

Despite the rhetoric which acknowledged the necessity to develop agriculture and lessen the dependency upon copper (which still provides more than 90 per cent of all export earnings and is due to run out early next century), the amounts from the copper profits spent on rural development were negligible.

The worsening of the terms of trade, which have hit most Third World countries, have been felt more dramatically in Zambia which had more to

lose. The copper market slumped. At the same time oil prices rose, and so did interest rates. Zambia turned to the IMF, which considered it a strong candidate for exemplary reform.

The first IMF package came in the late 1970s. Others followed, but each was overtaken by the worsening recession.

The biggest dose yet of the bitter monetarist medicine was administered in 1985. In return for its loan of SDR 230 million (£184 million), Zambia agreed to undertake massive devaluations, to lift restrictions on imports, to remove subsidies on food and increase the prices paid to farmers as an incentive to produce more, and to cut government spending.

For more than a year the policy was carried through with some success. IMF officials were delighted.

But the result of the auction was an effective devaluation from two kwachas to the dollar in October 1985 to more than 15 in November 1986. Inflation rocketed.

The political pressure on Dr Kaunda grew. For the first time in 23 years, he began to become unpopular with the ordinary people.

His first reaction was to juggle with personnel — he sacked the architect of the reform, Mr Luke Mwanashuku, the Finance Minister, while retaining the system. Then he tried methods of rigging the auction, but that only resulted in ratcheting up the bidding and depressing the kwacha still further. With the riots, he capitulated.

Now the trade gap, which the IMF hoped would this year be about kwacha 1.4 billion (about £13.5 billion), is, according to the Government, likely to rise to kwacha 2.2 billion. Bankers here say in reality it will probably be more than kwacha 3 billion.

"In any other situation like this, the IMF would have stopped negotiating," said another Western diplomat. "But maintaining stability in Zambia is crucial in a region where instability is endemic."

"There is plenty of Western money in the wings. About \$400 million is on offer, but only on condition that an agreement is reached with the IMF," said one international banker. "The national debt is now \$5 billion. As of February the country is \$160 million in arrears to the IMF and that is rising at \$20 million a month. It is becoming close to being unbridgeable."

## Draw after sealed move

Anatoly Karpov and Andrei Sokolov drew the eighth game of their world chess eliminator in Linares, Spain, yesterday when Karpov offered a draw on the revealing of Black's sealed move, Rb4, from Sunday night.

Karpov had enjoyed a minute advantage in the rook and pawn endgame, but the outcome had widely been seen as a draw. He now leads by 5 points to 3, with one game adjourned, in the match which could go to 14 games.

White Karpov; Black Sokolov

Queen's Indian Defence

White	Black	White	Black
1 d4	Nf6	22 Re1	se
2 c4	e6	23 Qc2	Qc5
3 Nf3	d5	24 Rb1	Qd4
4 e3	Bd6	25 Nc3	Re4
5 Bb3	Bb4	26 Rb2	Rc4
6 Bc2	0-0	27 Rb3	Rc3
7 Nc3	0-0	28 Rb4	Rc3
8 a4	c5	29 Rb5	Rc3
9 c5	b5	30 Rb6	Rc3
10 Kf1	c4	31 Rb7	Rc3
11 e5	Nc5	32 Rb8	Rc3
12 Bc1	Qc7	33 Rb9	Rc3
13 Kf2	Nd6	34 Rb7	Rc3
14 Rb1	Nc5	35 Rb8	Rc3
15 Rb2	Qc7	36 Rb9	Rc3
16 Qd3	Rc8	37 Rb7	Rc3
17 Rb3	Rc8	38 Rb8	Rc3
18 Qd4	Qc5	39 Rb9	Rc3
19 Rb3	Qc4	40 Rb8	Rc3
20 Rb2	Rc8	41 Rb9	Rc3
21 Rb3	0-0	42 Rb8	Rc3



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# FUEL HE DELIVERS



SPECTRUM 1

# Pawns in the battle for peace



## FIVE YEARS ON Part 2: Deadlock and emotional diplomacy

sovereignty of the islands. Alan Franks on the survival options and settlement hopes

Although the comparison may seem far-fetched, the Falkland Islands have become, five years after the conflict of spring 1982, a problem no less intractable than that of Northern Ireland — with the kelpers playing the role of Loyalists to Buenos Aires' Dublin. What then is the way forward? Argentina, under the democratic government of Senor Raoul Alfonsín, continues to press its claims for the sovereignty of "Las Malvinas", while Britain's Conservative government argues not only that the islands are a British dependency, but also that if a territory was worth the sacrifice of 258 lives, it cannot now be given to the aggressor.

The deadlock seems absolute, if absurd. As we reported yesterday, the 1,919 islanders are bitterly opposed to a deal with Argentina involving sovereignty. Yet the new democratic government in Buenos Aires believes the time is ripe for negotiation, citing the sympathetic stance of 116 member states of the United Nations. Since the ousting of General Galtieri's military regime the Argentinian government, still clinging to its territorial claims, believes — against all available evidence on the islands — that Britain could benefit by taking advantage of this break in successive juntas.

More positively, it is arguing that despite the continued severance of diplomatic relations, some accommodation over the islands is vital for trade between the two countries. It is a view that increasingly dominates Britain's South Atlantic Council, a multi-party organization monitoring progress in the region.

One of the few islanders who would consider the possibility of

**Falkland islanders remain the victims of a political tug-of-war between Argentina and Britain over who should have**

living with the Argentinians is Kevin Kilmartin, who now farms 30,000 acres in Bluff Cove. "As long as they let us get on with our work here, I don't think I would object to their presence."

By comparison with the sabre-rattling rhetoric of 1982, the noises now emanating from Buenos Aires are emotional, and can be paraphrased as follows: Argentina does not now wish to threaten the islanders' way of life by plunging the community with immigrants from the mainland; if and when a transfer of sovereignty is agreed, the inhabitants would be offered rights of representation in the Buenos Aires government.

The difficulty here is that while Argentine diplomats and politicians in the capital view their country very differently from five years ago the islanders themselves have yet to be persuaded.

Take Des King, landlord of Port Stanley's Upland Goose Hotel: "If the Argentinians wanted to come back here, our message would be very clear — 'You can stuff it.'"

Buenos Aires government officials insist there will be no repetition of the hot-headed errors of 1982. The more enlightened among them even argue that this small parcel of land, far from representing a stumbling block between the two countries, should be a stepping-stone to rapprochement.

All the while, interested parties in Britain such as the Falkland Islands Committee and Falkland Islands Association are studying practical ways of helping the British community. The committee was formed in 1968, in response to the fear that George Brown, then Foreign Secretary,



Smiling through: Kevin Kilmartin and his daughter Clare at Bluff Cove: "I wouldn't object as long as they let us get on with our work"

was about to hand over the islands to Argentina. This fear has been the islanders since 1910; and it was not allayed by a 1983 report to the Commons' Foreign Affairs Committee giving some credence to Argentine claims.

For those Britons who wish to retain the territory, an increase in the population holds the key — as Lord Shackleton has consistently suggested. But here again we run into ugly contradictions. There is no doubt that both in Port Stanley and its outback, there is space to increase the number of inhabitants. The trouble is that if immigrants are encouraged, there will not necessarily be sufficient jobs nor houses to accommodate them.

For a start, there is an acute lack of building materials on the islands; second, the dominant industry of sheep farming can absorb no sizeable increase in the labour force. If the population is to be built up, the only likely way will be through establishing a local infrastructure for the newly expanded fishing industry.

Eric Ogden, former MP and chairman of the Falkland Islands Association, concedes that an upping of the population is a vital measure towards justifying our retention of this remote terrain. Already there are signs of such an increase: since the conflict 50 residents who departed in its wake have now returned, while another

50 have migrated from the UK. Tiny statistics admittedly, but not without their significance in a community of under 2,000.

Some estimates have put the Falklands' capacity for absorbing a new populace at 10,000. In such a large area of empty land they could no doubt drift in virtually unnoticed. But what do they do

for a living when they get there?

In March 1987 both claimant nations to the Falkland Islands are motivated as much by emotional as by practical interests, and this is where the impasse lies. For our part, we are loath to part with a flag-end piece of Empire over which so much blood and money was spilled; the Argentinians, meanwhile, still teach their children that the Malvinas remain the nation's birthright.

For this latter view many reasons are advanced — notably that Argentina is peculiarly obsessed with its claims to land. Even the most chauvinistic of its politicians would not claim that the Malvinas are needed for its economy or Lebensraum: there are millions of vacant acres in Patagonia alone.

In Britain, the only party at present committed unequivocally to the Fortunate Islands policy is the Conservative. Labour, for its part, is prepared to negotiate with

### COST OF VIGILANCE

● Past and projected expenditure on island defence.

1983-84	£624 million
1984-85	£684 million
1985-86	£552 million
1986-87	£442 million
1987-88	£282 million
1988-89	£140 million

● The steady decrease in the annual figures after 1984-85 is explained by the capital expenditure on the new airport and garrison at Mount Pleasant in the years immediately after the war.

Alfonso on an open agenda: while the Alliance, against a direct transfer of sovereignty, is not averse to a solution involving UN trusteeship.

But for the moment Britain and Argentina remain embroiled on their own divergent courses, with the islanders ever more feeling like pawns in a contest for access to Antarctica.

The Argentinians are outraged at Britain's declaration last November of the 200-mile fishing zone, claiming it contravenes the Law of the Sea Convention. Their politicians now seem like men struggling desperately to keep their anger in check.

One Argentinian intellectual summarizes the present, seemingly insoluble position, in these terms: Britain and Argentina have all the conditions for becoming friends and partners once more; it is "grotesque" to assume that our relations can return to normal while the islands' future remains excluded from the agenda; to enlist the deaths of soldiers as an obstacle to negotiation is wrong.

There is a pointed joke doing the rounds in the Argentine capital at the moment — admittedly one with considerably pre-Thatcher origins: what is the difference between a diplomat and a lady? When a diplomat says yes, he means maybe; when he says no, he is not a diplomat. When a lady says no, she means maybe; when she says maybe, she means yes; if she says yes, she is not a lady.

### TOMORROW

Antarctica: rich wilderness or a white elephant?

## Jaffna waits in fear for attack that seems unlikely to come

From Michael Hamlyn, Colombo

While groups of European tourists are gradually returning to the silver southern beaches and the green central highlands of Sri Lanka, the inhabitants of the far northern Jaffna peninsula wait with trepidation for a military assault. But the assault they fear will in all probability never come.

The peninsula, separated from the mainland by a narrow neck of land, is virtually under the control of a guerrilla army fighting for an independent state for the Tamil minority, which they want to establish in the north and east of the country. They call the state "Eelam".

The Sri Lankan armed forces, largely drawn from the majority Sinhalese community — mainly Buddhist, while the Tamils are mainly Hindu — have been content to stay behind their barbed-wire fortifications for the past two years, allowing the Eelamists a virtually free hand in the peninsula.

For the past three weeks, however, a series of intense military operations has been carried out in the north.

In the middle of February, operations began in the four districts of the Northern province outside the Jaffna peninsula, but the scene of activity later moved to the peninsula itself. The Army moved out of its camps and began clearing

bunkers occupied by the rebel forces, expanding its own boundaries.

After a month of activity, the armed forces now appear to have completely encircled Jaffna.

In the lull which has fol-

lowed, civilians in Jaffna and other towns have been advised to move to safer areas. Leaflets have been dropped from helicopters warning the people to seek refuge in times of conflict.

This psychological conditioning has been further increased by the militants themselves, who have been laying mines and planting bamboo stakes in school yards to try to prevent helicopter landings.

But in fact it seems highly unlikely that the Government

would have much to gain by seizing control of Jaffna. The Defence Ministry has denied any such intention. A senior official said the Government had more to gain by leaving the terrorists in charge. "They are quite good at hit-and-run tactics, but they are no good at administration."

In addition, the people of the peninsula have been suffering a shortage of certain essential supplies, such as fuel oil, under a government embargo. The hope was that the shortages would be blamed on the Eelamists and not on the Government. The authorities announced last night that it will now allow fuel into the peninsula, but on a rationing system.

A ministry expert pointed out that the armed forces

could easily move out of the fort in Jaffna where they are established, but the present smaller-scale operations are improving the Army's ability to impede the movement of the separatists' men and material.

"The militants' positions are all pointing the wrong way — at the Fort itself," he said. "They would be no good against a naval or helicopter landing behind them."

Another official said: "We are fighting battles which we can win, small ones which keep up morale. It has a very bad effect on terrorist morale. The other thing is that the Indian reaction is less loud, because very few civilians are getting involved."

The Indian reaction to the military operations has been vehement in public, but privately Indian officials are said to be not unhappy at a weakening of the rebels' military confidence.

The Indian Government is anxious to get the principal militant organization — the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam — into peace talks, and realize that a militarily confident rebel group is unlikely to be prepared to talk.

The Sri Lankan Government is also claiming now that the number of surrenders by militant rebels is gradually increasing.



Mr Nicanor Yáñez, leader of the KRL party of the former President Marcos, and a candidate for senator in the May elections, making his first campaign speech in Manila.

## Vigilante gunmen banned by Aquino

Manila (Reuters) — President Aquino of the Philippines yesterday ordered the immediate disbanding of several powerful armed civilian vigilante groups in a move political analysts said risked offending the restive military. Defence officials said that Mrs Aquino had signed an order scrapping existing groups. A second order provided for the formation of a single national police force.

The banning order includes the semi-official Civilian Home Defence Force, which has more than 70,000 members and was established under the Marcos regime. General Fidel Ramos, the armed forces chief, has sought an expanded role for the vigilantes, who are seen by the military as key weapons in the fight against communist rebels.

A senior adviser to the President recently told journalists privately that acceptance of the vigilantes was part of a political trade-off with the Army. Elements of the military have been involved in three unsuccessful coup attempts since Mrs Aquino came to power in 1986.

The order, quoted the newly proclaimed constitution, which forbids private armies unless "recognized by duly constituted authority".

## Spanish doctors on strike over pay

Madrid — Doctors at state-run hospitals in most parts of Spain went on strike here yesterday, demanding a restructuring of pay scales and changes in Health Ministry policies which they blame for a general deterioration of medical care (Harry Debelius writes). The stoppage, which was to affect all but essential and emergency treatment, was to last for three days and resume on March 26 for another three unless there are earlier negotiations.

### Torture trial

Buenos Aires (Reuters) — An Argentine court ordered the trial of a retired general and 11 other officers for alleged murder and torture during military rule, the private news agency Noticias Argentinas reported.

### Children die

Bangkok (AFP) — A woman and three little girls were killed and a boy aged five critically injured when they were run over by a police vehicle chasing hawkers at a market in a suburban park.

### Plea to Howe

Hong Kong (Reuters) — The Foreign Correspondents Club of Hong Kong has said it wants to meet the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, to seek the repeal of a law making the publication of false news a crime.

### Disaster talks

Yaoundé (AFP) — More than 120 scientists from Japan, France, the United States and other countries began a week-long conference here on the causes of the release of toxic gas at Cameroon's Lake Nyos in August 1986 that killed 1,746 people.

### Busy Premier

Tokyo (AFP) — The Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, is unlikely to find time to meet President Reagan in Washington next month because of his busy political schedule, a Liberal Democratic Party official said.

### Hess returns

West Berlin (Reuters) — Hitler's former deputy, Rudolf Hess, has been discharged from hospital and returned to Spandau prison here after treatment for a lung complaint.

### Troubled attempts at reform in Yugoslavia

## Pay freeze protests spread

From Dassa Trevisan, Belgrade

The Yugoslav Government's decision to introduce a wage freeze linked to productivity, which has provoked strikes in Croatia and other regions, has been criticized by industrial leaders.

The most outspoken critics are executives in the textile industry, where wages are among the lowest despite the success of many firms in exports, which earn badly needed hard currency. One Belgrade textile manager was reported to have challenged the Government's wage freeze on the grounds that productivity has not been defined in Yugoslavia and therefore it was illogical to impose limits on incomes without such a definition.

The workers' anger was aroused because the Gov-

ernment is implementing the legislation retroactively. At a time when the cost of living has been rising by 7 per cent each month, many workers have found their monthly wages cut by 20 to 30 per cent.

More than 10,000 workers went on strike last week in Croatia and the fear of more strikes has prompted politicians and union leaders to tour the industrial centres in an attempt to calm the workers.

The leader of the Croatian trade union attacked the Government for introducing a freeze on wages while allowing the prices of government-controlled foods to go up by as much as 30 per cent or 40 per cent this month.

The Croatian unions demanded the changes in the legislation, but the anger among workers has not been quelled.

Medical staff in Zagreb's main hospital stopped work for several days because their salaries were cut by more than 10 per cent.

Almost 40 enterprises were affected by labour protests last week, and a daily newspaper quoting several factory bosses expressed fear that the situation will not be calmed easily. The pay freeze is likely to affect one in four enterprises in the country.

● Mikulic snubbed: Striking hotel workers in the Slovenian ski resort of Kranjska Gora refused to serve the Prime Minister, Mr Branko Mikulic (AP reports).

A Western diplomatic observer in Belgrade, who did not want to be identified, said he did not see a co-ordinated strike movement in Yugoslavia but sporadic local protest actions.

## Fury over fund-raising intellectuals

From Our Correspondent, Belgrade

An attempt by hundreds of Yugoslav intellectuals to set up a solidarity fund to help people whose livelihoods were threatened because they expressed critical opinions has provoked a fierce official reaction.

The country's leaders have warned that the party will not hesitate to use the police against all those endeavouring to undermine the constitutional system and set up organized opposition.

The intellectuals, among them numerous journalists, including party members, initiated the solidarity fund as a means of helping journalists and other people who have suffered reprisals for their critical views. Scores of prominent intellectuals joined in and a founding meeting was scheduled to take place last month.

But the move prompted a counter-attack and the president of the Serbian Communist Party, Mr Slobodan Milosevic, in a recent speech said the party should not hesitate to use "administrative measures", even running the risk of being called "Stalinist".

Such measures, he said, should protect the basic values of Yugoslavia. He also warned the Communists who have joined the fund that leniency cannot be tolerated towards "class enemies".

In a recent press release, 15 intellectuals emphasized that the fund was started with the aim of proving that resistance to repression and arbitrary persecutions was not only necessary but possible.

The official reply in Serbia was that the solidarity fund was in fact an attempt to organize anti-Communist opposition and party members should have nothing to do with it.

In the Belgrade daily, *Politika*, 67 journalists have signed a declaration in support of the fund, and most of them have resisted pressure to withdraw, maintaining that the setting up of such a fund was a humanitarian, rather than political, act.

While the party leaders, obviously anxious to nip the dissident growth in the bud, are keeping up the pressure on critical journalists and intellectuals, in Slovenia, the most northerly and ad-

vanced republic, the press is continuing to call for liberal reforms.

In fact, a kind of loyal opposition is emerging there within the legitimate framework of official political organizations. Recently there have been petitions demanding the abolition of legislation under which people are sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for airing critical views, as well as demands that political prisoners be accorded a special status.

The authorities, however, treat political prisoners in the same way as ordinary criminals, and have so far shown no willingness to concede such demands.

Mr Doloresch Paraga, a student from Croatia who recently described his experiences while serving a four-year jail sentence, is to face another trial for interviews he gave to Yugoslav newspapers. He was accused of hostile propaganda.

Mr Paraga last year sued the state of Croatia for damages, alleging that he suffered ill health as a result of his imprisonment. He was sentenced in 1980 to four years, which he served in various prisons in Croatia.



# SPECTRUM 2

A guide to the measures as they are announced; Rodney Lord examines the options

## Charting the Budget changes

### ECONOMIC TARGETS

<b>Economic Growth, 1987</b>	
Last forecast:	3%
Budget forecast:	
<b>Inflation through the year</b>	
Last forecast:	3.1%
Budget forecast:	
<b>Balance of payments 1987</b>	
Previous target:	-£1.5bn
Budget target:	
<b>Public borrowing, 1987-88</b>	
Previous target:	£7bn
Budget target:	
<b>Oil price 1987</b>	
Previously assumed	\$15 a barrel
Now expecting:	
<b>Money targets, 1987-88</b>	
Previously:	n.a.
MD:	+2% to 6%
Budget targets:	
<b>Sterling M3:</b>	
<b>MD:</b>	
<b>Other:</b>	

The Chancellor normally starts his speech with a tour of economic prospects. This year he should enjoy himself. Growth in 1987 is expected to be faster than last year and better balanced, though he may have to raise his inflation forecast. Watch out for news on exports which should do well if manufacturers can take full advantage of the lower pound. Good export growth will help to contain the likely deficit on the balance of payments — but forecasters' views are very mixed.

The story is less appealing on inflation and most people expect Mr Lawson to have to raise his pre-Christmas forecast of 3.1% per cent in the final quarter of this year.

The public sector borrowing requirement is a key number in the Budget arithmetic. In 1986-87 borrowing is certain to turn out much lower than the intended £7 billion. In 1987-88 the Chancellor is likely to plan for something below £7 billion, but the lower he targets borrowing the less scope for tax cuts. Anything below £5 billion would be a real surprise.

Financial cognoscenti will also be looking hard at what he says about monetary policy. Make a note if he abandons the sterling M3 target.

### JOB AND INDUSTRY

<b>National insurance rates</b>	
Employees	Budget
5% £39-65 per week	
7% £65-100	
9% £100-295	
Employers	Budget
5% £39-65 per week	
7% £65-100	
9% £100-150	
10.45% Over £150	
<b>Changes to job programmes</b>	
Community Programme	
Re-start	
YTS	
<b>Public spending</b>	
Privatization	

Budgets are mainly about how to raise money rather than how to spend it. But the Chancellor often takes the opportunity to announce one or two additions to the public spending plans which were set out in the Government's White Paper, which was published in January this year.

Lord Young, the Employment Secretary, announced a package of job measures earlier this year which probably won't leave much for the Budget. But there is almost certain to be a jobs theme of some kind in Mr Lawson's speech.

Other public spending initiatives could include special grants for research and development or extra spending on infrastructure projects though these are more likely to be financed within the existing plans than actually added to public spending. Mr Lawson may also alter some of the details of the privatization programme.

The rates for national insurance contributions — the "tax on jobs" — have already been set for 1987-88 but the stepped rates for the lower paid are still steep. See if Mr Lawson does anything to smooth these out. Watch out also to see if he removes the Upper Earnings Limit for employees, as for employers, which would hit the higher paid hard.

### BUSINESS TAXES

<b>VAT threshold:</b>	
Neutral Budget:	£21,250
Actual Budget:	
<b>Financial services tax</b>	
<b>North Sea oil</b>	
<b>Company car scales, 1988</b>	
<b>Corporation tax:</b>	
<b>Small business</b>	
<b>Other changes</b>	

Most Budgets under this Government have contained something to foster small businesses. Any cuts which the Chancellor may make in the basic rate of income tax could be accompanied by a cut in the small companies rate of Corporation Tax.

The level of income at which businesses have to register for VAT is another matter important to small businesses. The figure for a "neutral Budget" given above adjusts the current year's limit for inflation. A draft EEC directive would allow us to increase it to £25,000, but this proposal has not yet been adopted by the Community.

Some loopholes will be closed on mainstream Corporation Tax, and the Chancellor could use the revenue recycled to cut the rate further. Concessions were made on the special tax regime applying to the North Sea oil industry in November but there is pressure for further changes to help exploration.

In the financial sector recent scandals could provide the right political background for a new tax on financial services (which do not bear VAT), but the Chancellor will be wary of adding to borrowing costs or undermining the City's international competitiveness.

### POPULAR CAPITALISM

<b>Changes in income tax reliefs for:</b>	
Business Expansion Scheme	
Employee share schemes	
Profit-sharing	
Personal equity plans	
<b>Stamp duty</b>	
<b>Capital Gains Tax Threshold:</b>	
Neutral Budget:	£6,500pa
Actual Budget:	
<b>Inheritance Tax Threshold:</b>	
Neutral Budget:	£74,000
Actual Budget:	
<b>Other Changes</b>	

Ownership equals responsibility, the Government believes, so anything which gives people a bigger stake in enterprise could find favour with the Chancellor. During the past year the Government has been discussing the pros and cons of encouraging more people to take part of their pay in the shape of a share of profits and Mr Lawson could give the idea a fair wind in the Budget by offering some tax relief on profit-related pay.

To help those who really catch the capitalist bug there may also be changes in the Business Expansion Scheme designed to concentrate capital raised under the scheme on higher risk projects.

To help turn Britain into a nation of share-owners as well as a nation of home-owners, last year Mr Lawson set up a new scheme to encourage personal shareholding, the Personal Equity Plan; he could build on it this year, or think of something new.

On capital taxation the least Mr Lawson is likely to do is increase the size of the gains you can make without being caught for Capital Gains Tax. Last year's switch to Inheritance Tax abolished tax on the majority of lifetime gifts but he might this year raise the point at which tax begins on inherited estates.

### SPENDING TAXES

<b>Gallon of petrol:</b>	
Neutral Budget:	Up 4p
Actual Budget:	
<b>20 cigarettes:</b>	
Neutral Budget:	Up 3p
Actual Budget:	
<b>Pint of beer:</b>	
Neutral Budget:	Up 1p
Actual Budget:	
<b>Bottle of whisky:</b>	
Neutral Budget:	Up 20p
Actual Budget:	
<b>Car licence:</b>	
Neutral Budget:	Up £3.70
Actual Budget:	
<b>Other duties</b>	
<b>VAT changes</b>	

Excise duties are levied not on the price of an article but on the quantity, so the amount of tax has to be upgraded each year to keep pace with inflation.

The table shows how much extra the Chancellor needs to add to each of the main items to keep their level-pegging in real terms.

Cigarette smokers have been hit hardest in recent years (though pipe smokers have usually escaped); anything more than 3p on a packet of 20 king-size cigarettes, and they may need to go out and buy one to steady their nerves.

Mr Lawson will also invoke health reasons for introducing a tax concession on lead-free petrol which he promised to do this year in his last Budget.

Major changes to VAT coverage were ruled out for the rest of this Parliament in an earlier Budget, though the EEC wants us to tax commercial buildings and some less important items. Raising the rate above the present 15 per cent — such as increasing excise duties by more than inflation — would have the disadvantage of pushing up prices at a time when inflation is rising anyway.

If Mr Lawson wants to keep up his record of abolishing at least one tax in each of his Budgets he could find a candidate among some of the minor duties.

### INCOME TAX

<b>Allowances, 1987-88</b>	
Single person (and wife's earned income)	
Neutral Budget:	Up £90 To £2,425
Actual Budget:	Up To
<b>Married man</b>	
Neutral Budget:	Up £140 To £3,795
Actual Budget:	Up To
<b>Threshold for 40% rate</b>	
Neutral Budget:	£17,900
Actual Budget:	
<b>Threshold for 60% rate</b>	
Neutral Budget:	£42,900
Actual Budget:	
<b>Top Rate</b>	
1986-87:	60%
1987-88:	
<b>Starting rate of tax</b>	
1986-87:	29%
1987-88:	

Not much doubt remains that in this election year, the heart of Mr Lawson's Budget will be income tax cuts. Personal allowances have to be indexed by law and the table shows the increases required. Any scope for tax cuts is calculated after uprating both personal allowances and excise duties for inflation.

A major question is whether Mr Lawson will take to heart his own and the Prime Minister's rhetoric about the need to bring down top tax rates further. If he does, he may also readjust the thresholds at which the various higher rates take effect. As to the basic rate the general view is that he will trim it by 2p, but Mr Lawson could have scope enough to go, in one jump, to his target of 25p in the pound, a reduction of 4p.

The Chancellor may also give the go-ahead for stronger enforcement procedures by the taxman on the lines recommended by the Keith Committee. And he is likely to give at least some indication of whether he plans to go ahead in the 1990s with the switch to transferable allowances. Under this the married man's allowance would be abolished and replaced by single allowances for everyone, transferable between husband and wife.

### PERSONAL TAX BREAKS

<b>Age allowances</b>	
Single parent's allowance	
Disabled	
Charitable donations	
Other covenants	
Mortgages	
Pensions/life assurance	
Social security	
Health insurance	
Other reliefs/allowances	

If eyes will be on mortgage interest relief. Before the last election the Government raised the limit by £5,000 to £30,000. The Chancellor may raise it again this time, but he might also decide to restrict the relief to the basic rate if he cuts the top rates of income tax.

The other big tax break for savers is on pensions. The Chancellor has promised not to make any changes here without consulting first, but he does have to settle the tax regime to apply to the new personal pensions proposed in last year's Social Security Act.

The age allowances are likely to be raised in line with the increases to the main personal allowances, but that could mean either by the same percentage or, less generously, by the same sum of money. The same applies to additional personal allowances.

#### TOMORROW

What will the Budget mean to you? A special supplement on the Chancellor's speech and his plans for the economy

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TT 17/87

## Return of a great beast

In 1921 Bartolmeusz Szpakowicz, a forester-turned-poacher, earned himself a plum footnote in the annals of natural history: in the Bialowieza forest he killed the last European bison living in the wild. The majestic beasts — weighing up to 2,400 lb — had once been the trophies of Polish kings and the quarry of visiting princes and archdukes, and their salted meat made prestigious gifts to favoured foreign courts.

When Szpakowicz's bison crashed down in 1921, it seemed that its kind had finally succumbed to the ravages of war, a shrinking habitat and the poachers. But, due to the remarkable success of breeding bison in captivity, PAP, the Polish news agency, has reported that sportsmen from the West will be given the opportunity to shoot 40 of the bison in the Bieszczady wilderness. The price is estimated in US dollars — \$4,000 (£3,000) a shot.

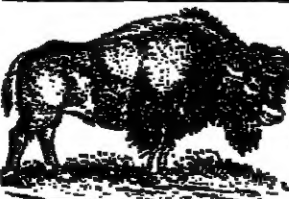
The re-established bison are protected but, in the Bieszczady mountains of Krosno province in the south-east of Poland, their numbers have risen above the 200 which scientists say is sufficient for the area. The bison are browsers, feeding on the leaves of oak, elm and willow. The bulls roar trees when rutting and churn up the ground with their horns.

Today's buoyant fortunes of the European bison (*bison bonasus*) are based on a careful breeding programme among zoos. This began with fewer than 60 animals and included the establishment of a herd book similar to those drawn up for pedigree livestock. Whipsnade and the Highland, Norfolk and Dartmoor wildlife parks are among British zoos which have bison in their collections.

John Burton, of the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, says: "I hope that the Polish government's offer to hunters will not be seen as shocking. The bison numbers can clearly bear a certain amount of culling. Possibly this has been made necessary by the decline of the wolf, which is their natural predator. It is an extraordinary success story. There are now other herds in Russia, Romania and Czechoslovakia."

Wealthy hunters will find the forest-dwelling European bison tends to be longer-legged and less heavily-shouldered than its cousin of the North American plains and, in spite of its size, has an ability to melt away among the trees. In the beautiful Bieszczady it shares its wooded fastness with bears, wolves, lynx, wild cat and several kinds of deer.

The head and hide of the bison will be presented to the hunter who shoots it. Its meat will stay in Poland a little longer, for canning and eventual export to the West.



**CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1208**

ACROSS

- Swindled (6)
- Revenue (6)
- Ten-masted vessel (3)
- Frowns (6)
- Cheap, showy (6)
- Opera song (4)
- Without saddle (8)
- Consoles (4,9)
- Excess (8)
- Unchanged (4)
- Morphine-based drug (6)
- Route (6)
- Automobile (3)
- Smother (6)
- Pass (6)

DOWN

- Film award (5)
- Suffolk racecourse (7)
- Rubbish container (7)
- Bury (5)
- Overawe (3)
- Supernatural event (7)
- Sixteenth of pound (7)
- Solomon's mother (9)
- Loose scrums (5)
- Foal (3)
- Not informed (7)
- Sixteenth of pound (7)
- Foal (3)

**SOLUTION TO NO 1207**

ACROSS: 1 Albert 5 Road 9 Silecia 11 Wedgwood 13 Ogle 15 Repetition 18 Alms 19 Affinity 22 Phacton 23 Beano 24 Korb 25 Oodles

DOWN: 2 Brind 3 Ode 4 Basso profundo 5 Balu 6 Nozgay 7 Shaws 8 Apex 12 Wipe 14 Foci 15 Rummage 16 Vamp 17 Syond 20 Inane 21 Sault 23 Bid

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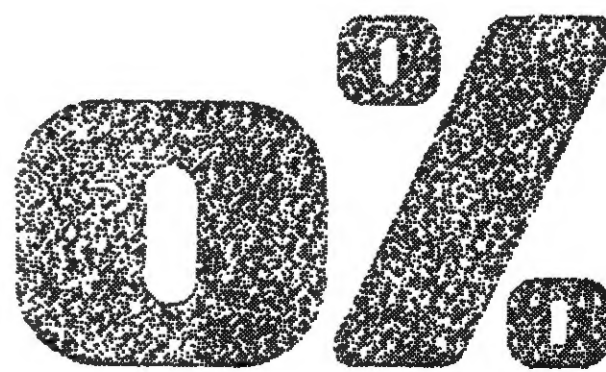
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**John A. Hill**



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# LONDON FASHION

## Skirting the issue

The focus of London fashion is the flirty skirt. But is the show still the thing asks Suzy Menkes?

Vivienne Westwood blew a fashion raspberry to all her fans yesterday. A not-so-innocent school-girl, her lipstick kissed askew, lifted her Harris tweed mini skirt to reveal a pair of sober drawers. Westwood's show summed up the contrary spirit of the London shows, which have been both classic and kooky, wearable and weird, innocent and cheeky — and sometimes all in one show.

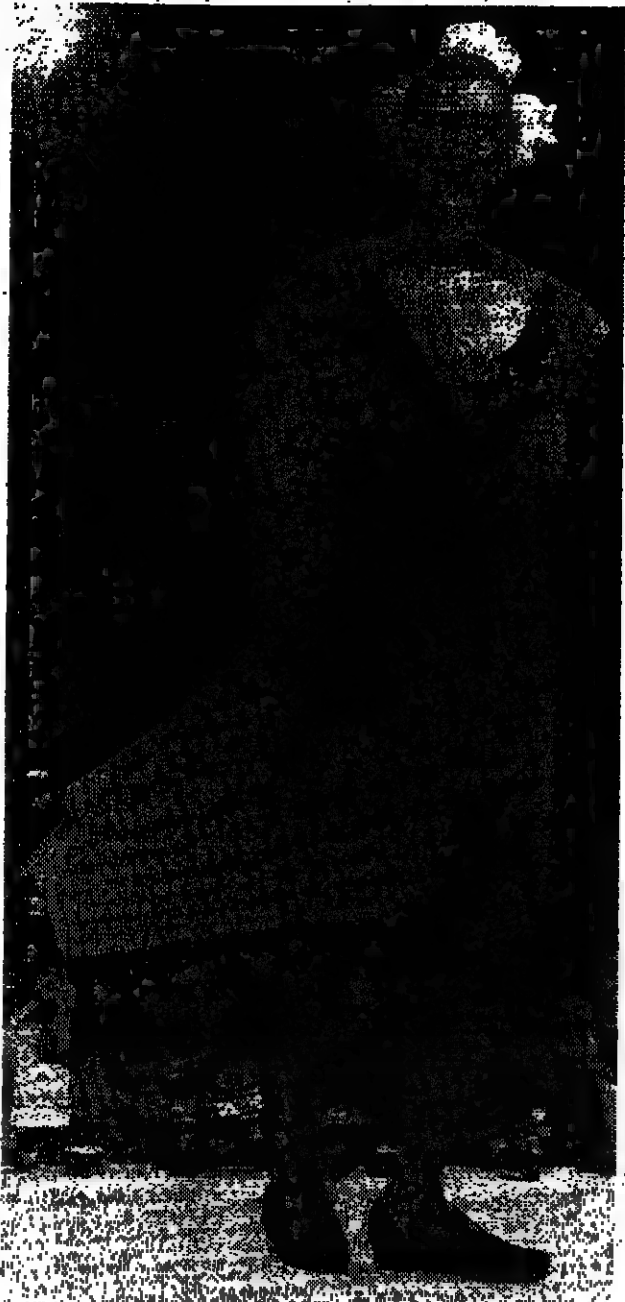
The skirt is the fashion story and the message is mostly a short one, for hemlines are riding high on the thigh. But the shows have been short too on creative ideas, and for both buyers and press the 300 stands at the Olympia fair offer much more than the over-blown runway presentations.

The overall mood is sweet and feminine, as skirts whirl out in stalling circles, flare out above the knee or unfold in loops and drapes like the petals of a flower. The emphasis is on womanly curves, for the waistbands are rising up to lap the bosom, and jackets are rounded boleros or have pockets to focus on the hips.

"There are many different shapes of skirt but whatever they are they have to be fun," says Clare Stubbs, Director of Fashion for Harrods.

There was no single stand-out show, although Jasper Conran, always a good lightning conductor of current fashion, came up with all the trends. There was a new softness to his swirly jersey coats in quiet taupe and browns, to his short skirts, flat at the front but fuller at the back or draped across the legs in wispy chiffons the colour of a changing sea.

Skirts were in a whirl at Rhiat Ozbek, who made most of his collection in jersey that was fitted tightly to the body, then unfurled at the knees in a circle or tiers of Puerto Rican ruffles. The swing and cling was worked in layers, so that a short wide jacket in ottoman rib (a favoured London fabric) swung loose over a hip-bugging dress. His colour sense was also on the button — of which there were many in military rows. The jersey outfits in aubergine with navy, or bottle green with emerald were shown with brilliantly



coloured legs in saffron yellow and turquoise.

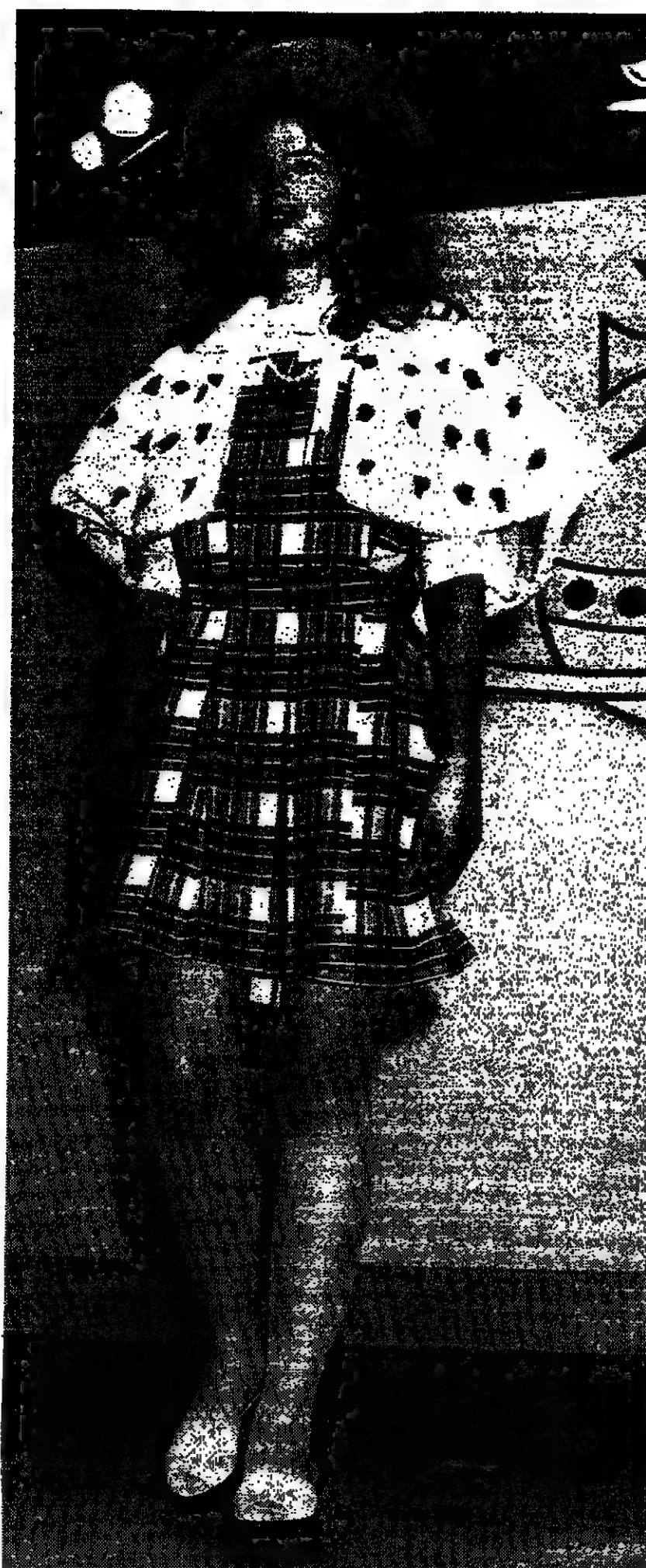
Jean Muir's classic line was elegantly updated this season by the new skirts, cut in panels to swirl just above the knee, while the more eccentric Georgina Godley's skirts were suspended in from an empire line waist that moulded the bust.

Significantly, all these designers presented collections in their showrooms (or in the case of Godley, a lecture theatre), rather than in the tents where an exaggeratedly high catwalk and music loud enough to waken the dead seemed to bring out the worst in the best designers.

Katharine Hammett started well with her sober, tailored nanny coats and New Look suits with fitted jackets and A-line skirts, but then reverted to hyper-sexy clothes shown on gyrating models with motorbikes as props. Denim mixed

with plaid and sheepskin flying jackets from the new leather collection looked fresh. Hammett's silhouettes has inverted past trends so that a tight clingy sweater with positively no shoulder pads tops a swingy A-line skirt.

Most of the young London collections were not nearly enough fun. Richmond Cornejo looked stuck in a groove with their aggressive presentation and relentless black, although they had some good body shapes moulded out of jersey. The prints at English Icons were strong and this collection, mixing an Edwardian silhouette, soft, filmy skirts, ethnic knits and patterned sleepwear, was young and upbeat. Wendy Dagworthy had one good skirt shape — a dirndl with its deep hem buttoned up into a mini. We saw it in 57 varieties of fabric. Betty Jackson was off-beam with her soft and mainly



long silhouette, although many designers are offering long skirts as an alternative to the mini.

There is an ethnic or folklore feeling in many of the collections. But what is the ethnic British look? It is not Alistair Blair's native tartan — the theme of his show, which veered unsteadily between sophisticated Parisian tailoring, swirling plaid capes and grand evening gowns, throwing up some strong shapes and very bright colours.

Paul Costelloe's quiet Irish tweeds were jazzed up with mini dirndls and skinty shift dresses hinting at the 1960s, a theme that was taken up with more conviction by Caroline Charles.

At Olympia, Edina Ronay and Arabella Pollen both caught the young British mood of classicism that means a shapely tailored jacket over a swingy short skirt. Workers for Freedom showed graceful, long dirndl skirts, simple, well-proportioned knits and tailored riding mocs that used to be what updating classic British fashion was about. The food they served took a starring role over the clothes.

London fashion needs to face the issue of whether our quirky, original and small-scale designers are well-served



by shows, however well-funded and organized, that turn fashion into show business.

John Galiano is a case in point, for he had some truly inventive and original cutting, an appealing theme of balletic clothes and some clever detail-

ing that twisted fabric — angora jersey, silk and knit — into rosettes to give surface interest. Yet the overall effect of this show, that contained all the trends from the high-waisted skirts to the ingenious pinafores, was slightly disappointing.

American buyers have been in London in force this season, and many of them look to London not for fashion direction but for specialist skills such as knitwear and evening clothes.

It was a good season for the evening specialists. Bruce Oldfield gave a sophisticated show, based on a revived New Look, and used the flirty skirts in an elegant way. He reported record business, as did Murray Arbeid, who showed bugle-beaded and pearl-encrusted grand evening dresses. Zandra Rhodes made the most of her signature prints on chiffon and puffed up the hems to give the new shape. Yaki showed an elegant collection with quiet earthy browns for well-proportioned knits and screaming colours at night.

In commercial terms, The London Designer show, which closes tonight, has been a huge success. As one of its group organizers, Annette Worsely-Taylor, put it yesterday: "There are a lot of people here spending a lot of money."



Far left, John Galiano: High-waisted asymmetrical dress with flared skirt. Left, Vivienne Westwood: Schoolgirl tartan pleated gymnast, above the knee, worn with fake-ermine collar and jaunty hat. Above, Alistair Blair: Short swingy skirt in sophisticated checked silk. Below left, Jasper Conran: Delicate organza skirt with petal layers. Photographs by HARRY KERR

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### PEOPLE

## Top of the parties?

With the bust of William Gladstone presiding over the party co-hosted by Brian Walsh of Harrods and the London Designer Collections at the Reform Club on Sunday and Margaret Thatcher hosting a bash at Downing Street last night, the competition was stiff as a tulle petticoat to be the top party of London's long Designer weekend. First off with the champagne was Bruce Oldfield, who celebrated his new show and forthcoming book by spending all Friday at fashionable Beauchamp Place eatery, San Loreano.

### Pearly Boy

Boy George, eager to prove himself a reformed character, turned up at the Katharine Hammett show wearing a beret that appeared to be covered with everything he owned. The Pearly King look was achieved by pinning on badges exclaiming



Back in style: Boy George the virtues of Coca Cola. Everybody's favourite television model, Selina Scott of The Clothes Show, looked as pretty and as chilly as an ice cream in a pastel pink spring suit.

• "Fashion Caree" is the legend emblazoned across the ultimate designer T-shirt, created as the fashion industry's contribution to International Aids Day on April 1. The T-shirt, which sports over 50 signatures from the cream of British and international designers, will be on sale at Aids-day venues around the country including The Party at Wembley Arena where members of the music and fashion busi-

ness join forces. Concerned retailers who will be selling the £8 T-shirt as well as pledging a percentage of their takings to the cause are Joseph, Sloane Street, SW1; Jones, Floral Street, WC2 and Browns, South Molton Street, W1. T-shirts are available by mail order through street-cred mags Blitz, I.D. and The Face.

### Silent might

"It is not the clothes but the people that matter" is Joseph Ettedgui's latest philosophy on fashion. To reflect his new credo Joseph mounted his autumn collection on a still-life display of silent, brooding mannequins in a dimly lit nightclub, away from the bustle of the London Designer Show. The people certainly seemed to feel it mattered as the champagne flowed out and the black clad fashion hordes flowed in — did anyone notice the chalk stripe suits and rococo patterned sweaters over chunky knitted dirndl skirts, or were they there just to see the people that matter rather than the clothes that do not?

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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Ken's revenge

Kensington and Chelsea ratepayers, facing a £570,000 bill for the conversion of a derelict garage into factory units for minority workers, might be forgiven for thinking that the scheme sounds like something dreamed up by the GLC. They would be right: the Tory-controlled council has decided that although the GLC's Greater London Enterprise Board went over the top in forking out £970,000 to buy and convert the Middle Road Bus Garage in Notting Hill, it might as well go ahead with converting it into the planned units even at a cost of £500,000. Kensington and Chelsea Council is well aware that it is independent valuers two years ago put a price tag on the garage at less than its purchase price. "It's a disastrous consequence of the wild extravagance of the GLC," Tory councillor Robert Orme explained, admitting, "Some very strict Tories in other parts of the country might object." Union leader Clive Jenkins, who backed the original purchase, must be feeling vindicated.

### Whip hand

Matthew Taylor must be thankful that he didn't make a better impression on his Liberal bosses when he started looking for a job with them. This time last year the party advertised for a research officer in its whips' office, and an enthusiastic Taylor was among the first to apply. To his disappointment the job went to another recent graduate, Peter Addison, and Taylor had to make do with a promise that if anything suitable came up he would be considered for it — hence a job with David Penhaligon, which materialized soon after. Taylor will be introduced today as the Commons' youngest MP; Addison is still at his desk in the whips' office.

For Taylor's introduction, the Liberals are lining him up for a photocall with David Steel, David Alton and Charles Kennedy. Each, in his time, was also burdened with the title "Youngest MP".

### Lord Bountiful

Lord Hanson, not content with putting a bomb under Imperial Group after the Hanson Trust takeover, is making sure that none of the survivors forgets who is boss. Andrew Reid, former chairman of Imperial Tobacco, and later deputy chairman of Imperial Group under Hanson, was justifiably tickled when the company presented him with a weighty package to mark his retirement. Opening it, he discovered a silver photograph frame with a photograph already in place. Beaming out from it: None other than Hanson himself.

### Spellbound

A Michael Heseltine anecdote that even Julian Critchley's forthcoming biography misses: visiting the freshers' fair during his first week at Oxford, the young Heseltine, confused by the competing attractions of societies, signed up as a member of the Black Magic Club. He told me yesterday: "I was faced by the Liberator's stark ads. I thought the black magicians sounded more credible."



'At least the kids won't have to be given the day off'

### Jobs for pals

Those Central Office-approved Conservative parliamentary candidates still unable to win adoption by a constituency are being offered a consolation prize. The Tory vice-chairman, Tom Arnold, has written to all of them asking if they would fancy working as a senior assistant in Norman Tebbit's office in the run-up to the election. One man who was surprised at the offer is Stephen Robin. He has been working at Conservative HQ full-time, in the press office, since January.

Voilà the latest fashion faux pas: spotted on a recent trip to Lyons, a chic sports footwear chain called Athlete's Foot.

### Ma Larial

Jean Patou, the French perfumer, may be regretting launching his latest creation, *Mia Liberté*, yesterday by impregnating 150,000 copies of the French daily *Le Quotidien* with it. Judging by the reaction of women colleagues in *The Times* Paris office, the stunt was less than a complete success. One told me the inter-reaction of scent and newspaper reminded her of the space between love and madness than the heady aroma of mosquito repellent.

Robin Oakley looks at the Chancellor's prospects; Michael Surrey on a tradition in need of change

## Why Lawson may never move next door

he will head off to the City to work something less than his present 18-hour day while restoring the depleted family fortunes. A few Tories have begun to wonder if that could all be a bit odd and if he does secretly nurture a grander political ambition. Could he be staying above the fray, they ask, while others become front-runners and fade? Suggestions are heard that Lawson might become the next Foreign Secretary — though some Conservatives, given his combative manner, blanch at the very thought. He is more than just Treasury Man. It was Lawson who, as Energy Secretary, built up the coal stocks which enabled the government to see off Scargill. On Cabinet committees he debates such issues as rates and state earnings-related pensions from a political viewpoint and not merely an economic one. His commitment to the wider political battle is undoubted. Lawson is technically the best equipped chancellor since Cripps. His intellectual capacity matches that of any of his colleagues. His first Budget in 1984 was a triumph. With little room for manoeuvre he produced something for everyone. It was ingenious and reforming. The 1985 offering, by contrast, was a grey bank-managerish effort which disappointed. He played a sterling crisis badly in 1985 and wriggled away pretending he hadn't meant it when attacked for suggesting that the hundreds of millions spent on the miners' strike was a "worthwhile investment". But last year he was back on the tax-cutting trail. Despite more sterling problems in the autumn and a feeling that he had lost control of monetary policy, he pleased his party by finding more

money for the public services. And this year, revenue-rich, he is proving that he has the most vital political attribute of all: good luck.

If it does the electoral trick, will it lift Lawson into the leadership stakes in the next parliament, leading him to postpone his City ambitions? That remains in doubt. For Lawson has never really been a politician in the full sense of the word.

He came into the Commons late after 16 years in journalism. He is no orator. He is poor on television and grumpily uncommunicative with interviewers. Above all he is living proof that while your opponent may be on the other side of the Commons, your enemies are sitting behind you.

There are patient men, there are those who do not suffer fools gladly, and there are those who take a positive delight in reading questioners, friend and foe alike, limb from limb and then grinding the pieces into the carpet. Lawson belongs to the third category.

This is a man who takes out no political insurance, who bothers to build up no deposits of affection. He will be judged, and is content to be judged, purely by results. If the Tories win the election, Mrs Thatcher will owe him a major Cabinet post so long as he wants it. But Tory MPs are never likely to feel that they owe him anything.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

## Euphemism's new standard

British Rail has announced that second-class travel is shortly to be abolished. Or rather: British Rail has announced that second-class travel is not shortly to be abolished. The trick lies in the words. The travel, everything will remain exactly the same, except that second-class will be renamed "standard". The trains will still be dirty, uncomfortable and late, the food will still be disgusting and the fares will continue to go up; but second-class will be called standard, so all is well.

Shakespeare had something to say on the subject:

Second-class, second-class! Wherefore art thou second-class?

What's in a name? that which we call a rose

By any other name would smell as sweet;

So second-class would, were it not second-class call'd.

Retain that dear perfection which he owes

Without that title. Second-class, doff thy name;

And for that name, which is no part of thee,

Take all my standard.

Or words to that effect. The poison of euphemism has worked through our language into our national consciousness. I have not the smallest doubt that the man who thought this one up genuinely believes that BR travellers will think they are getting better service by riding in a standard carriage instead of a second-class one. What is more, he may be right. But even if he isn't, he will think he has done a good job.

There are many rights and sounds and ideas and events in the world that disturb us, that offend us, that we would rather not think about. There are many ways to deal with such phenomena; we can try to understand them, and thereby lessen the offence they give, or we can take steps to destroy or remove them, or we can conquer our fear or distaste of them. But what, again and again, we do in practice is none of these things; we change the name of what we dislike, and by doing so persuade ourselves that we have changed the thing itself.

Let us start with something simpler, and, but simple. We all have to die most of us grow old before we do so. In growing old, we cannot help knowing what it is that is coming closer; yet we have a desperate need to banish the thought of it. So we first call

ourselves elderly instead of old, and then, when that medicine proves not strong enough, we call ourselves Senior Citizens.

But we die nevertheless. What, I suspect, that we die harder, in more fear, than if we learned to contemplate, calmly, the fact of death in general and our own in particular. The world we live in, though, deserves otherwise; no one shall need to face anything disagreeable, even if it is as inevitable as death.

Let us go on to something stronger. Once, we referred to people whose bodies were deformed or incomplete, whether by injury or genetics, as cripples. At some point, the word became, or was decreed to be, socially unacceptable, and such unfortunate were renamed handicapped. Further dilution was demanded, and they became disabled. More time went by, and even that proved too strong for those who decide these matters (who, incidentally, are almost never the sufferers themselves); now we must get used to the word "disadvantaged". And it is not only people, but nations; for backward began under-developed, and under-developed began developing, and developing began Third World.

It is offices, too. It was a long time ago (so long that people were still permitted to laugh at such foolishness) that the ratcatcher became a rodent officer; today, I doubt if any council employee in Brent goes by a title that would be recognized without a glossary. As for the moneys given to those who are unemployed or unable to afford lodging or food, we must use no word other than "benefit". Nay, those who receive the benefits may not even call themselves poor; they are all underprivileged.

But does a man with no legs leap up and walk when he is called disadvantaged? Is there less drought and famine in the Third World than in the backward nations? Has the underprivileged man more money in his pocket than his neighbour who is poor?

All euphemisms are lies. They are lies told for a particular purpose, and that purpose is to change reality. But no man can change reality, particularly by doing no more than wave a word at it. Then why the pretence? Because reality is very often, painful, and it is the very bedrock and foundation of our world that no one should be obliged to suffer



Frank Johnson

Nor, the rule continues, shall anyone be obliged to suffer poverty, ill-health, disappointment, loss, bad luck, failure or an ugly face; since there is no way of avoiding all these, or for that matter any of them, we change their names, and think we have abolished them.

Nazism expelled far — oh, all right, not again. But just as death, I believe, is very fearful for those who have refused to face it before it touches them on the shoulder, whereas it might come as a gentle visitor, or even as a friend, if they had earlier learned the wisdom of

understanding it, I am not convinced that poverty is more easily borne because it is called by a prettier name; indeed I suspect that the instinctive measuring of the reality against the euphemism makes the poverty more bitter, not less.

It runs throughout our world. When it is said that the IRA has "claimed responsibility" for another murder, should we not strip the lying euphemism from what has happened, and say "admitted guilt"? The reason we should prefer the truth to the euphemism is exactly the same as the reason I have given for my other examples; the false word makes matters worse, not better, the IRA less evil, not more.

Poor British Rail, to be belaboured with such a sledgehammer when it was only offering a perfectly ordinary rail! And yet there is a principle at stake, and an important one. It is not necessary to call a spade a bloody shovel, though it does no harm to do so. But if you call a manually operated cart-tugging agricultural implement, you have damaged more than the language.

Things and actions are what they are, and the consequences of them will be what they will be, whether we should we desire to be deceived? Bishop Butler is not known to have been given any sensible answer to his question; but then, it was really a rhetorical question. Human beings, I have suggested, cannot bear much reality. Perhaps not; but reality can bear any number of human beings, and will do so, come what may. It was Margherita Laschi who translated "Simple inexpensive gowns for the mature fuller figure" as "Nasty cheap dresses for old fat women". No doubt the old fat women, as they donned their nasty cheap dresses, would have preferred the wording of the advertisement; but the translation told the truth, for all that, while the advertisement lied. Probably the British Rail spokesman who dreamed up "standard" for "second-class" thought he was being frightfully clever. But the standard carriages will not get us to our destinations a moment sooner than the second-class ones used to; not even, I may say, if he calls himself a spokesperson. PS: I have just learned that the Post Office is now to call postmen "delivery officers". Have they told the dogs?

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Diana Geddes sums up the first year of Chirac-Mitterrand cohabitation

## Making the best of misalliance

foreign policy since the right came to power — closer relations with Syria and Iran; slightly less antagonism toward South Africa; a return to greater emphasis on Francophone Africa. In France's relations with the Third World, closer co-operation with Spain in expelling Basque refugees from France. But, as Mitterrand said last week, the broad lines have remained the same.

In domestic affairs, Mitterrand has fulfilled his pre-election promise to "allow the government to govern". In fact, he had little option. Article 20 of the constitution, hitherto blithely ignored by successive Fifth Republic presidents, states that the government "decides and carries out the policy of the nation". The president may refuse to sign government decrees, as Mitterrand has done on three occasions, but the constitution gives him no power to block legislation passed by parliament.

Mitterrand has been happy to dissociate himself from government policy, much of which has not been popular. (The latest poll shows 68 per cent of the public disapproved with the way the country is being governed.) He has criticised, wisely and correctly, knowing that to intervene too frequently would only devalue the effect. At the same time, he has

credibility. Within the first nine months, no fewer than 59 laws were enacted, many introducing fundamental reforms: on privatization, electoral reform, abolition of price and exchange controls, anti-terrorist measures, easing of redundancies, tax reform and abolition of the wealth tax.

But with winter, the government's fortunes began to change. Violent student demonstrations were followed by crippling transport and electricity strikes, which in turn were followed by a period of intense cold and snow, leading to further transport disruption. The government was forced to withdraw its university reform bill and cancelled a scheduled extraordinary session of parliament to avoid further tensions over planned controversial legislation.

In January, after unexpectedly large price increases, it had to revise its 1987 inflation target upwards and its growth forecast downwards. Unemployment continued to rise inexorably, 224,000 more on the dole since the right came to power. The promised upsurge in business confidence was not materializing.

None of that had anything directly to do with cohabitation, but it was blamed. Over the past year, when things have been going well, cohabitation has been seen as a good thing; when not so well, as bad. The latest poll shows a record 53 per cent considering it a bad thing, while only 29 per cent think it good. Two thirds nevertheless believe it will continue until the presidential election in May 1988. Mitterrand will then be 71 and has said that he will not stand for another term, but the latest polls have him as the only viable candidate on the left, running ably and neck with Barre and way ahead of Chirac.

## Is the Budget necessary?

In an historical context it seems heretical to question the importance of the Budget. The general interest — from the crowded benches in the Commons to the widespread concern about the Chancellor's refreshment — reflects its constitutional significance. Looming behind the Chancellor are potent shades stretching back to the origins of the Commons in its role as granter of supply to the monarch and including Magna Carta, Ship Money, the Civil War, the Bill of Rights and the 1911 Act which finally established the Commons' supremacy over the Lords. More modern but no less powerful mystifiers are the Chancellor's perusal for weeks beforehand, the Cabinet's ignorance until the morning of the Budget of the harsh penalties for (let us not say, the "Beat the Budget" shop signs.

Does the reality of the modern Budget merit all this brouhaha? Since the war it has been the occasion for most major changes in taxation and for a review of the economy's recent development and future prospects. But the strategic public expenditure decisions are announced and reviewed the previous autumn, while decisions about monetary policy, interest rates and the exchange rate are subject neither to parliamentary scrutiny nor to a predetermined timetable. Furthermore, the need (real or imagined) for "adjustments" at other times of the year was recognized in the mid-1960s by the introduction of the purchase tax regulator and, later, by increasingly frequent mini-budgets and public expenditure packages.

What remains for Budget Day is largely anomalous and in some respects positively harmful. Decisions on taxation are divorced from logically inseparable decisions on expenditure, on one hand, and from equally interdependent decisions on monetary and exchange rate policies on the other. The absurdity of altering tax rates only on a specific date in March each year becomes manifest when applied to changes in interest rates or the exchange rate.

Moreover, the importance attached to "the" Budget has led to any fiscal changes during the rest of the year being seen as black marks against indecisive chancellors rather than as sensible adjustments to a rapidly changing economic situation.

The practice in other industrial countries offers no clear lesson. In most, an annual budget concentrates, at least in principle, on expenditure rather than on revenue. But particular contexts (from federation and quinquennial financial planning in West Germany to administrative fragmentation in Italy, and with widely differing degrees of central bank autonomy) are too diverse to provide a common model.

The other aspect of the British

budget — the state of the economy review — makes a good deal of sense. Without a regular pause for reflection, government week-is-a-long-time-in-politics reactions to the plethora of economic indicators and forecasts might be even more short-sighted than they already are. Whether the turn of the financial year is the best time for such a review depends on whether governments want to encourage or discourage discussion of economic policy options. Discussion at the time of the Budget is sterile discussion of a fait accompli.

The economic forecast published with the Budget is invariably one showing steady progress towards stated objectives — well, it would, wouldn't it? The forecast which matters — the pre-Budget one — is not for disclosure. Yet the autumn statement on public expenditure and the forecasts associated with it have clear implications for an implied fiscal adjustment in the next Budget: implications which are already the subject of a good deal of chatter.

How much better it would be to have, in the autumn, a full discussion of the economic situation and prospects together with a strategy for public spending (which ought in general not to be the vehicle for short-run policy changes); a broad statement of objectives, both final (inflation, employment, output) and intermediate (the exchange rate, monetary policy, taxation). Within that framework let changes in taxes, like other policy adjustments, be made as and when required; infrequently if the government is committed to a stable rules strategy, more frequently with a more interventionist stance.

Today, then, will produce a good deal of sound and fury, signifying nothing very much. What spending plans settled before Christmas, and with an arithmetic commitment to a level of the public sector borrowing requirement, the Budget is about the tactics of the "fiscal adjustment", not about an overall strategy for economic policy.

In the absence of more radical reform, the Budget review remains the government's main opportunity for strategic statements on the economy — thus was the birth of the late lamented medium-term financial strategy announced in 1980, for instance. This could be retained and developed, along with the symbolic constitutional formalities. But let us drop the tired stage turn, with the Chancellor each year pulling predictably coloured rabbits out of an old red box, and instead let governments take fiscal action at times determined by the state of the economy, rather than by the state of the daffodils in St James's Park.

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Frank Johnson in the Commons

## University of Life tackles Jenkins

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Labour) yesterday became the first member during Commons proceedings to mention Roy Jenkins' election as Chancellor of Oxford University.

The Labour and Conservative front benches were obviously anxious that this further Alliance triumph, coming so soon after Greenwich, be forgotten as quickly as possible.

The Home Secretary, who was at Trinity, Cambridge, but in his capacity as a former Visiting Fellow at Nuffield was reported to have voted for Mr Heath, withheld comment on the result and concentrated on the Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Bill, second reading.

The chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, Mr Gerald Kaufman, who was at Queen's College, Oxford, did likewise.

But on the Labour benches, it was difficult for everyone to be so self-disciplined. Among MPs — especially Labour — there has always been a rivalry between Oxford and the rival establishment, the University of Life.

The rivalry tends to come out in the form of jocular, good-natured teasing of one another by the two lots of graduates, especially when Oxford and Life teams face one another in such games as politics, Oxford men tend to mock the so-called Life accents affected by many Labour backbenchers.

Many are of middle-class origin, who none the less speak in that odd way, and are suspected of putting it on in order to advance themselves in their class-conscious party.

At this, the Speaker interrupted: "What's this got to do with the register of electors?" Realizing that his time was running out, Mr Skinner responded by changing the subject to the inconsistency between the method by which Mr Jenkins was elected on Saturday and proportional representation, the method favoured for other elections by the party of which Mr Jenkins was first leader.

"I think the Honourable Member for Hillhead will be demanding a run-off," said Mr Skinner, "since he obtained only 40 per cent of the vote. It was a bad turnout, like the House of Commons on a bad day — more like the House of Lords."

After further diversions, Mr Skinner concluded: "These people want to tell the working class how to run their own affairs, but this ballot has been the biggest cop out of all time."

Mr Skinner did spend some time at Ruskin, the trade union college at Oxford but his point of order yesterday stamped him as typical Life product — sceptical, a generalist rather than a narrow specialist, socially-assured.

The Speaker told him that it would be up to the relevant select committee whether Mr Jenkins' name went on the register as Chancellor of Oxford University but one got the impression that Mr Skinner had lost interest by then.

Mr Jenkins was not present to hear Mr Skinner being effortlessly superior about his victory.

Neither was Mr Heath, who was said to have received the votes of the socialist MAs and who was therefore the Skinner candidate in the election.





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## CAMPAIGN AGAINST CRIME

The Government must be hoping that Mr Lawson comes up with some more attractive figures this afternoon than Mr Hurd did yesterday. The Home Office crime statistics, never a pretty sight, look particularly ugly this time — despite Downing Street concern with law and order. A seven per cent rise in offences in England and Wales, to record levels in 1986, suggests a serious trend which needs reversing.

Its seriousness is to some extent debatable. The authorities have claimed that the figures reflect a rise in the level of public awareness, which has led to more crimes being reported.

One has to question whether the incidence of rape in London has risen by nearly 50 per cent — as the statistics suggest. In part this must conceal a greater readiness on the part of the victims to come forward. One might indeed interpret this as a sign of greater confidence in the police. The upward trend may also conceal an increase in the number of private telephone calls, of people with house insurance policies — and all the other perquisites of modern society which might encourage people to complain.

On the other hand such caveats can hardly explain away a rise from 1,690,000 offences 15 years ago to 3,847,410 last year — reportedly seven crimes a minute. One would need a pair of unusually rose-tinted spectacles to analyse the increase in such terms.

Nor can one easily discount a police detection rate which left more than two out of three crimes unsolved. This figure

too is slightly misleading in that the rate for serious crime was significantly higher — up to 92 per cent for killings and 71 per cent for lesser violence, including rape. But the general impression which the public is left with is that villains far too often get away with it.

The most obvious corrective is to put more police back on the beat. The sight of a slowly perambulating constable is still a reassuring symbol for people who pass by. It might be very good public relations and not to be lightly dismissed.

It is not, however, a complete answer. An experiment some time ago in part of Chelsea when all police were removed from the streets had no discernible effect on the crime rate. A more effective way of fighting crime is to target resources on selected areas. Mugging, for instance, is concentrated in only 12 of the 75 divisions in the Metropolitan Police area. In residential districts, the 5,000 neighbourhood watch schemes already working well in the metropolis could be extended — especially to the big council estates where the police badly need co-operation from the public.

A number of police jobs could easily be civilized. People who have to meet exacting requirements to join the police still spend far too much time acting as social workers, court officials and clerks. Many functions have now been taken over by traffic wardens, and the principle should now be more widely applied.

Perhaps what is needed most of all is a more intense

public campaign. More than one in five criminal offences involves cars, yet manufacturers still fit car locks which are hopelessly inadequate. Manufacturers protest that the quality of the locks is not what makes customers buy their cars. But if they continue to show such reluctance, the Government should impose minimum standards which would make life more difficult for car thieves.

Then it should consider similar requirements on house builders over locks on doors and windows. The cost would be a fractional addition to the house price. But the effect on house burglary could be profound — even if only the casual amateur were deterred. Meanwhile the police should be consulted more closely before housing estates are built. Their ill-fitted walkways might delight the architect but not those who have to use them late at night.

Parents are still too lax about their children, both in terms of accompanying them to and from school and making sure they tread the straight and narrow. Children need discipline — not corporal, physical or even strict, but guidance and instruction. Too often they have to cope with life without it.

There is a clear case for investing in a vigorous crime prevention campaign on the lines of those carried out against smoking, AIDS and drunken driving. Prevention is better than cure, in respect of this malaise as of any other. Yesterday's crime statistics should not be used to instil panic. But they cannot safely be ignored for another twelve months to pass.

## A NON-ACADEMIC INQUIRY

It is almost a year ago that David Selbourne, a politics tutor at Ruskin College, Oxford, wrote an article in *The Times* so setting off a train of events which culminated yesterday in the Government's announcement of an independent inquiry into the college's doubtful adherence to the principles of academic freedom.

The subject of the article was not the issue. The problem for Ruskin was that by writing for this newspaper Mr Selbourne had broken a trade union and Labour Party boycott.

Ruskin does not like being called an arm of the trade union movement. Its principal, John Hughes, prefers to describe it as a "residential college established to provide liberal education to unqualified working men and women". Nonetheless, 56 of the college's governing council of 80 represent trade unions and its students regard themselves as committed trade unionists.

What happened after the article appeared is a matter of heated dispute and writs have been issued. Mr Selbourne, who is suing the college for constructive dismissal, says that his lectures and tutorials were repeatedly picketed and boycotted and he accuses the college authorities of failing to make any effective response.

The college says it has no knowledge of anyone being intimidated and denies that it failed to protect Mr Selbourne.

In an attempt to head off just such an inquiry as has now been announced, it commissioned its academic advisers (three dons with strong Labour Party links) to provide it with "guidance in general terms as to the principles on which Ruskin should base its handling of major issues of tutorial responsibility and academic freedom".

It was their eight-page report, later endorsed by the college, which was rightly condemned in the Commons yesterday by the Higher Education Minister, George Walden, as giving "insufficient basis for confidence" that the principles of academic freedom would predominate over the college's other considerations.

That is putting it politely. The document is a remarkably slippery exercise in having your cake and eating it. On the one hand it proclaims that respect for academic freedom is of primary importance; "tutors need to be free to talk, write and publish their views on academic subjects without action by the college which might be designed to change their views in any way. If other members of the college seek to put pressure upon them to keep silent or modify their views, appropriate action must be taken". So far so good.

On the other hand, students "must be free to react to what tutors say or write... Occasionally disagreement may reach a point where the college decides that no productive

educational purpose can be achieved by maintaining the tutorial relationship". In other words, what happened to Mr Selbourne is understandable and even justified.

Finally, there is this gem of academic (or is it political?) time-serving: "In their day-to-day relations with other members, and their external activities of a public kind, (tutors) ought to avoid giving expression to their views in ways that appear to others to defame or damage the reputation of the college."

Of course, the worthy advisers (Professor A.H. Halsey, Lord McCarthy and Dr Leslie Macfarlane) are not for a moment suggesting that tutors guilty of such a crime should be disciplined in any way. Perish the thought. On the other hand, "they must expect to awaken resistance and even denunciation. They cannot expect to be popular."

That, as Mr Walden mildly put it, is not acceptable. Ruskin is publicly funded. This year it received £570,000 from the Department of Education, 52 per cent of its total budget. Government grants and bursaries to students bring that dependence up to 90 per cent.

As things stand, Ruskin's guarantee of academic freedom is not worth the eight pages it is written on. Let us hope that Dr Sloman, who is to head the inquiry and who has guided Essex University so successfully for so long, can put matters right.

automatic vote-catcher. Much of the land concerned is forest, which would be of little use to the peasant farmers and would probably remain with the state. Moreover the authority of the church tends to be highest in rural areas, and there can be no guarantee that what displeases the church will automatically please Greek farmers. In 1977 proposals for language reform nearly lost the then education minister his parliamentary seat when they were opposed by the church.

Generally, however, the state takeover of church lands is likely to be seen in a positive light. Even though it has failed to prevent legislation permitting civil marriage and divorce, the Orthodox hierarchy is still seen as a retarding influence on the country's economic and social development. It is also wealthy. The reallocation of some of its wealth will be seen as moving the church, and rural Greece, a little further towards the twentieth century.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Long way to go for Soviet Jews

From Mr Roy Mason, MP for Barnsley Central (Labour). Sir, On the "test of Soviet good intentions" (Letters, March 10) Martin Gilbert was right to acknowledge Mr Gorbachev's new mood, but on examination of the facts it is no more than that.

Mr Gorbachev came into supreme office in March, 1985. At that time he was fully aware of the numbers of Jews who wished to leave the Soviet Union. At the end of 1985, 383,000 Jews were still awaiting a visa after relatives abroad had issued invitations to join them.

Of these there are known to us in the West 11,000 Jews who have been refused (refuseniks) and no doubt there are many more not known to us; 8,200 of them have been waiting between five and 10 years and 1,200 for over 10 years (up to 400,000 would wish to leave if all restrictions were removed). In 1985, 1,140 were allowed to leave; in 1986, only 914, and so far this year 238. Gorbachev has virtually sealed the gates. So much for his good intentions.

Therefore, in spite of the much-heralded new era on human rights in Russia there is still vast persecution of a minority race.

Recently 140 prisoners were supposed to be released from Soviet prisons and labour camps. According to Amnesty International only 69 have been freed and it is doubtful if any have been allowed to leave Russia — having exchanged a small prison for a larger one. Therefore a few highly publicised cases of release within the Soviet Union and outside have not really changed the situation. Indeed in January this year more rigorous controls were imposed on the application procedures of those Jews still yearning to leave, especially to Israel, a land of their own religion and culture.

The plight of the Jews in the Soviet Union is a prime example of the Soviet's appalling disregard for human rights. Having led an all-party parliamentary delegation to meet refuseniks I am personally aware of the situation — that is, of course, before Mr Gorbachev recently stopped two more groups from paying a visit.

If this period of Gorbachev's new détente is to be meaningful, bearing in mind the Soviet's signature on the Declaration of Human Rights, then it is incumbent upon Mr Gorbachev and his regime to be fair and true to the Jewish race. I hope the British Prime Minister will carry this message in her portfolio to Moscow.

Yours sincerely, ROY MASON (Vice-Chairman, All-party Parliamentary Committee for the Release of Soviet Jewry), House of Commons.

From Mrs Ludmilla Matthews. Sir, Recently I invited my sister, Mrs Lesbia Borisovna Vassina, a resident of Moscow, to visit my family in London. I have been living in this country, with my British husband and two children, since 1969. Never in all these years has my sister had a chance to see us here.

When she applied for a short-

term visa last January we were full of hope. According to a new regulation, since January 1, 1987, the Soviet authorities are obliged to answer any application for travel within a month or offer an explanation in cases of refusal.

Today we received the news that my sister's application has been refused, and the "explanation" followed:

It must be clear to you that you can meet your daughter there, and this is not desirable for the State. My 40-year-old niece, the daughter mentioned above, lives in West Germany. She left the Soviet Union eight years ago against her parents' wishes, but with the permission of the authorities. Neither she nor her husband were involved in any unofficial political activity whatsoever. Yet her family seems to be condemned to eternal punishment because of her departure.

While any arbitrariness at all is unacceptable, I should explain further why the State's attitude is so painful in my sister's case. Our father, Boris Bibikov, a senior party official and holder of the Order of Lenin, was executed, aged 34, at the peak of Stalin's terror and posthumously rehabilitated in 1956. Our mother was sent into exile for 10 years and my sister and I (aged 12 and two) were put into an orphanage.

When the war broke out my sister, then aged 16, was mobilized and served as a radio operator in the Soviet Air Force. After the war, having worked for the Soviet State for 35 more years, she retired, as an honourable pensioner, only soon to be saddened by the death of her husband, himself a war hero who lost a leg fighting for his country. And now, on her 62nd birthday, my sister has again been subjected to a ruthless humiliation.

What contribution can a Soviet citizen be expected to make to perestroika if he or she is treated in such a way? LUDMILLA MATTHEWS, 7 Alderney Street, SW1, March 6.

### Benefit of doubt

From Mr Conrad Jenkin. Sir, When Professor Rotblat suggests (March 7) that with his latest proposals on intermediate-range nuclear forces missiles, Mr Gorbachev should be given the "benefit of the doubt", what specifically is he proposing we should do?

For example, is he suggesting that we should rely solely on trust that the Soviets would not replace their short-range intermediate nuclear forces missiles in East Germany and Czechoslovakia within a few months of withdrawing them, and do we then continue to rely solely on trust that they would never be so beastly as to threaten us with them?

In my dictionary, one of the definitions of the word "trust" is "hope", but may I suggest that in the past defence strategies based mainly on hope have been singularly ineffective. Yours sincerely, CONRAD JENKIN, Knapsford House, West Meon, Hampshire.

Covent Garden, which all independent observers agree is essential.

Many also believe that an auditorium primarily for dance is urgently needed; the Lyceum could fulfil this requirement with the private finance that is already available. The piazza site would then be free to become an English "Pompidou" centre in spirit, if not architecture.

In such a scheme plans might include space for the displaced Lyceum ballroom; an underground link to the new theatre museum and additional space for its exhibits; direct access into an "inside out" Opera House committed to shedding its elitist image with the provision of a smaller auditorium as a showcase for new work.

This mixture of so-called "high" and "popular" arts would enrich London and complete the vision of those who so imaginatively restored the Covent Garden piazza.

Yours faithfully, DAVID DREW, 40 Blomfield Road, Little Venice, W9, March 7.

they believe is necessary without impinging upon their profit figures. The fact that a company is making profits in the harsh international market is a better guarantee that it will choose the right projects than its ability to persuade Civil Servants to recommend them to ministers.

It would also take up less time and effort.

Yours faithfully, T. S. McLEOD, Little Woolgarston Cottage, Corfe Castle, Dorset.

### Simple arithmetic?

From Mr Julian Tenby. Sir, As a teacher of some years' standing, I am by now quite used to those of my colleagues who indulge in such bizarre junketings with the English language as "underachievers" and "peer groups".

I am now in the happy position that I can reassure those of my pupils who have difficulty in simple addition that help is at hand: I have been offered the chance to attend a conference which will enable me to "remediate error patterns in low-stress algorithms".

Will Mr Howard please note? Yours faithfully, JULIAN G. TENBY, Wrey Cottage, Lustleigh, Newton Abbot, Devon.

### Haven for the Chinese tiger

From Mr Martin Booth. Sir, It is a lamentable but accepted fact that the Chinese tiger — one of the five remaining sub-species of tiger: three are already lost — is nearing extinction. Chinese scientific sources admit to fewer than 50 animals remaining in the wild, with only a small population held in zoos. Breeding is considered to be the only means left to save the species.

The Indian tiger has been successfully and spectacularly saved by the Project Tiger organisation, which has established reserves that have not only conserved the species but also given the animal (and its survival) a high public and tourist profile, as much a point in its being saved as the provision of land.

The time has come to provide similarly for the Chinese tiger, a creature not only of scientific and aesthetic value but also of considerable historical, mythological and religious importance to the Chinese themselves.

The problem of providing a reserve lies in the heavy concentration of land usage in China, where human population pressures in all but the most remote areas make the establishment of a reserve impractical on human and economic grounds; and a reserve beyond the reach of both Chinese and foreign tourists would do little good to improve the public awareness of the animal and its plight.

However, there lies an opportunity which should not be missed. In Hong Kong there is an area of approximately 80sq kms which could with ease, minimal human disturbance, and at comparatively low cost provide an adequate and excellent reserve for the Chinese tiger, within the close proximity of tourists but not so close to human activity as to be of little value.

The area in question is already designated as a protected zone. Known as the Sai Kung East Country Park, it is a large and mountainous peninsula with a narrow, 5km "throat" which could be readily made secure with a fence, the sea providing the remaining safe boundaries. Small game abounds and more could be introduced, fresh water is plentiful and the area has wooded valleys and rocky outcrops as well as grassy areas — ideal tiger terrain.

The potential displacement of human population is tiny and less than the number displaced by the construction of any one of Hong Kong's recent big reservoir schemes. No better way could be found to utilise uncommercial land, to provide a haven for a threatened species and present to the Chinese people, in 1997, not only the present going industrial concern of Hong Kong but also a major site towards international nature conservancy, something so far rarely observed in Hong Kong.

Yours faithfully, MARTIN BOOTH, Drayton, Langport, Somerset, March 8.

### Tunnel vision

From Mr M. J. Southgate. Sir, Michael Chisholm claims (March 5) that the only firm plans he is aware of for European railway services through the Channel tunnel relate to London-Paris and London-Brussels. British Rail have publicly stated on many occasions that we believe that there is a strong market for passenger trains to mainland Europe originating or terminating in the West Midlands, the North-west, Yorkshire, the North-east and Scotland.

With our Continental railway partners we are indeed planning to run such services, not only to Paris and Brussels, but to and from destinations beyond these cities wherever there is demand that can be met profitably.

There will also be freight wagon and container services from freight depots and private sidings throughout the UK to major industrial destinations in mainland Europe. Indeed over 70 per cent of the freight potential lies outside London and the South-east.

There is no question of public subsidy arising. On the contrary, it is clear that major use of the tunnel will be made by BR and other European railways. Yours faithfully, M. J. SOUTHGATE (Director, Channel Tunnel), British Rail (Southern), Waterloo Station, SE1, March 5.

### Bolton disaster

From Mr J. E. H. Bennett. Sir, Your On This Day column, "Cup-tie disaster" (March 11), while a grim reminder to me of the danger of being crushed to death at a football match after surviving the Normandy invasion, failed to give a balanced account of the calamity.

The crowd assembled was composed of the great part of recently demobilised service folk, keenly anxious to watch the skills of Stanley Matthews, who was playing that afternoon for Stoke City.

It was a good-humoured crowd of Lancashire people, and I saw many women and children being passed over their heads to the safety of the pitch. A minority panicked and clambered over shoulders and walked; the old and the short were at a disadvantage, but for the most part they obeyed the police wherever possible in the maelstrom crush.

The Bolton ground was badly designed, with the entrance to the

## ON THIS DAY

MARCH 17 1841

Edmund Jones intruded into Queen Victoria's apartments at Buckingham Palace three times. He spent three months on the treadmill and was then sent to sea. He served in the navy until 1847. The Mudlark, a film made in 1950, bore some semblance to the incident.

### THIRD APPEARANCE OF THE BOY JONES AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

The boy Jones, who on two former occasions effected such a mysterious entrance into Buckingham Palace, on Monday achieved a similar unenviable exploit. The urchin was discovered on Tuesday morning, between 1 and 3 o'clock, under the circumstances we are about to relate. Before, however, going into any detail, we must again regret that the authorities at the Home-office still consider it necessary to exclude the reporters of the public press from any inquiry connected with royalty, and thereby prevent a formal account of what transpires going before the public in which all Her Majesty's loyal subjects must feel a deep interest.

The boy Jones was liberated from Tothill-fields prison on Tuesday, the 2d March (yesterday fortnight), his term of imprisonment as a "rogue and vagabond" having expired. On the day previous to his liberation he was visited by Mr. Hall — or some one acting in the name of that respectable magistrate — and asked whether he (Jones) was willing to go on board a ship? The boy did not object to go on board, but we understand he wanted to make certain conditions which were not acceded to. His father was then sent for, and Jones was given into his charge, with strict directions that he should take every possible care of him, and watch his actions: at the same time the offer to send the boy aboard was renewed (and we understand it was offered in the first instance some weeks since)...

Up to Monday last the boy's conduct was unobjectionable. Sunday last he attended a Methodist chapel twice or three times, and had frequently stated his determination to join a tea-total society. On Monday he was at home during the day, but about 8 o'clock he was missing, and nothing more heard of him until yesterday morning, when his father and mother were summoned to appear at Bow-street. Their attendance at the police-office, however, might have been dispensed with, as no examination took place there, the police being instructed to convey their prisoner to the Home-office. This was the first intimation that the boy's friends had of his having effected a third entrance into the Palace...

The urchin himself still persists in declaring that his only object in going to the Palace was to hear the conversation of Her Majesty and Prince Albert, in order to "write a book" which, he says, must be read with great interest. He has from his infancy been fond of reading, but no one would form such an opinion from his personal appearance, which is anything but prepossessing. His countenance is exceedingly sullen, and he is very diminutive for his age, which we understand is 17 years.

His father asked him several times how he had obtained admission. The only reply he ever made to obtain was, "Oh, by the door or window." Immediately after the boy was discovered in the Palace, three months since, two extra policemen (sergeants of the A division) were appointed, whose duty it is, on alternate nights, to watch all the staircase approaches and interior of the building and in consequence of this arrangement, Jones was so soon discovered — it is supposed shortly after he had effected his entrance. It appears, from what we have heard, that shortly after 1 o'clock yesterday morning, the sergeant of police on duty in the Palace imagined, as he was going along the grand hall, that he saw some one peeping through the glass doors, and which turned out to be case; for on his approaching, Jones ran against him; and, of course, was immediately secured, and at once sent off in custody to the station-house in Gardiner's-lane. It was afterwards discovered that the boy had previously visited Her Majesty's larder, as, at the time he was disturbed, he was feasting himself with cold meat and potatoes, which he had conveyed up stairs in a white handkerchief. When asked how he obtained an entrance, his reply was, the same way as before, and that he could, at any time he pleased, obtain an entrance into the Palace. We understand it is generally supposed that the fellow got over the wall on Constitution-hill, and crept through one of the windows...

popular side being contiguous with the stands and a few impatient groups, by pushing on the flank, caused the whirlpool of disaster. There was plenty of room on the opposite terraces.

There is no comparison with the hooligans of today. I am, Sir, yours sincerely, JOHN E. H. BENNETT, Clonbeg, 5 Castleward Road, Strangford, Downpatrick, Northern Ireland, March 12.

In the black

From Mr K. M. Taylor. Sir, How times have changed! The full page advertisement in *The Times* (March 6) and elsewhere, for the 1987 Ford Sierra states "optional black paint". A far cry from the original Ford offer, "You can have any colour so long as it's black".

Yours faithfully, K. M. TAYLOR, 51 Northumberland Place, W2.















# THE ARTS

## Keeping tags on nature

Imagine a Trojan helmet exuding one of the stringier varieties of pasta, and you have a visual approximation of the nautilus — a deep-sea mollusc which owes its name

### TELEVISION

to Aristotle and which in its mating ritual suggests a nightmarish consequence on a surfeit of spaghetti vongole.

*Wildlife on One* (BBC1) tracked these shy creatures to their Pacific retreat, where marine biologists were busy defacing their beautiful shells with identification numbers. Some day perhaps the world's wildlife will rise in revolt against the tags and clips and radio transponders we oblige them to wear in the interests of science. In the meantime, the nautilus uncomplainingly provides an object-lesson in advanced buoyancy engineering, to a design which has served it well these 500 million years. With any luck, man might prove to be nothing more than a passing irritation.

The presenter of *Horizon* (BBC2) was exercised by the tendency of successful engineering designs to evolve into failures. In support of his evidence — much of it alarmingly spectacular — on the way that the architects of bridges and public buildings can be hypnotized by novelty at the expense of safety. But "the good news is that the world is full of structures that have not fallen down". Comment on the use of the word "good" in this sentence, and indicate where the word "yet" might best be inserted.

Peter McDougall's film *Shoot for the Sun* (BBC1) was a grainy, downbeat and claustrophobic essay in Edinburgh north, which evoked a half-world of grim closes, dirty council flats and sordid pubs. The plot took second place, with Jimmy Nail and Brian Cox losing their heroic dealing business to a rather light-weight rival gang led by the late Bill Simpson in his last screen role. Sara Clee's Vindaloo overdose seemed implausibly tranquil, but her hopeless relationship with Billy McColl was horribly authentic — not, to mention cautionary. This production should have been funded by the DHSS.

Martin Cropper



Frederick Forsyth at leisure in his Hampstead eyrie: at it turned out, raising the finance was "substantially more challenging than I thought it would be"

## Spymaster trapped in the City

Personal anonymity is the way Frederick Forsyth professes it. Except when he has a film coming out — *The Fourth Protocol* has its charity premiere in London on Thursday — or when he is promoting one of his novels, the 48-year-old author eschews personal publicity and rarely gives interviews. As it is, interviewers are directed not to the Forsyth residence — a fine Edwardian house surrounded by 10-foot walls in St John's Wood — but to a tree-lined avenue less than a mile away, where Freud once lived and where Forsyth has had an eyrie, as he calls it, for the past four years.

There is no name on the white card adjacent to his flat number, just the letter F. The door clicks open by remote control. The eyrie, which is really an office-cum-study, comprises one very large room. A stained-glass window on the stairway dates the house at 1887. A somewhat battered green-topped desk stands in front of a large window facing west. A small portable typewriter is on the desk. (The much older portable on which *The Day of the Jackal* was typed out in 35 days lies in a wooden chest, buried beneath files.)

The pictures on the wall include the fighter plane that Forsyth flew during his National Service; the Biafran leader, General Ojukwu; Carrie Forsyth, the author's very attractive-looking wife (whom he married before the success of *Jackal*), with their two children, Stewart, nine, and Shane, seven. The mantelpiece is painted ivory and picked out in gold — paint that is.

*The Fourth Protocol* is the third of his five thrillers to be filmed. But it is the first in which Forsyth has credits as both screenplay-writer and executive producer. Why, this time?

"Well, contrary to some reports, it

The film of Frederick Forsyth's espionage thriller *The Fourth Protocol* has its charity premiere in London this week — just enough of an incentive for its reclusive author to emerge for a rare interview with Douglas Keay

wasn't because I was dissatisfied with the way my other books were turned into films. It happened because Michael Caine wanted to play the part of John Preston, the spy-master, and I quite liked the idea of doing the screenplay. The only way this could be guaranteed was if we also found the money and produced it ourselves. We both reckoned it would be fun and challenging. As it turned out, it was substantially more challenging than I thought it would be."

They needed to raise £8 million. They began neatly by agreeing to defer payments to themselves of £1 million. This still left £7 million to be found from somewhere. As Caine was mostly out of the country, making films for other people, his partner had to do the looking. "I was totally naïve. My grasp of finance is on the level of 'if I have five bananas and you have six eggs'. What's more, we took the hardest road by deciding not to go to Hollywood. Which is like climbing the north face of the Eiger, because if Hollywood is picking up a third or half of the budget you will normally get your British end of the finance."

For some reason, against all logic, the City of London feels Hollywood knows what it's talking about. The fact that Hollywood proves on a daily basis that it hasn't the faintest idea, what it's talking about is totally irrelevant. The City assumes Hollywood always picks winners, when we know it rarely does — though it turns down a lot of winners."

For six weary months Forsyth

trailed round merchant banks looking for backers, and waiting for answers. He soon discovered that investing in a film was far down the list of financiers' priorities. "I would get remarks like 'I never go to the pictures myself, so I wouldn't know much about them' — and that from a guy who was head of the film division of a large financial house!"

Unfortunately, Forsyth had chosen the very year, 1985, when the British film industry was going through a particularly rough time. *Coldest with Revolutions* and *Absolute Beginners*, was turning out gigantic flops, and Thorn/EMI was also in the throes of financial crisis. "So there I was, in the worst city for film finance in the world, taking the hardest route. 'Did he not feel like giving up?' 'Several times. And I probably would have, but for my wife. I would come home very dejected, and after she'd heard my tale of woe she'd say 'Look, you've been sitting in that eyrie of yours all these years and you don't know what the real world's about. People wait three, sometimes four years to get a film off the ground.'"

Eventually the good fairy did appear, in the form of Wafic Said, a financier of Arabic origin and a resident of Britain for 25 years. He simply said he loved the book and was prepared to back his judgement. He would put up half the film's budget — £3½ million — and become

the third executive producer, along with Caine and Forsyth.

It took another six months to raise the other half. Two and a half million was finally promised by two investors, leaving Forsyth just one million short. "Then Rank Film Distributors contacted me. They asked to see the script, and within 48 hours said they wanted in for £2½ million, which left me in the invidious position of ousting the two investors who had thought they were doing me an incredible favour."

Even then, the problems were not over. While the lawyers mopped over contracts, the thaw in Finland, which waits for no man, grew ever closer. Instead of having three months to prepare the snow scenes (the Arctic substituting for the Russian wastes), the producer Timothy Burrill and the director John Mackenzie had just eight weeks. "We filmed with clouds of snow falling from the trees. In some scenes we had to spray them with polystyrene foam."

After that, filming in Milton Keynes was almost like making home movies. Permission was even given for filming outside the Cabinet Office. "Apparently Mrs Thatcher liked the book." But would Forsyth go through the whole process of setting up a film again? He gives a hollow laugh. "I'm going to keep my options very open on that," he replies.

If *The Fourth Protocol* turns out to be a very big-box office success, Caine and Forsyth can expect to pick up their deferred payments, and more. Both are already multi-millionaires, but both men find it hard to stop working. Caine makes at least three or four films a year, and Forsyth — who swore after finishing three books in 40 months he would not write another — has the idea for a sixth novel "simmering on the back burner."

## Heavy weather

### CONCERTS

LSO/  
Whun Chung  
Barbican

Some musicians are a hard act to follow. The cancellation by Martha Argerich of her two concerts with the London Symphony Orchestra this week has presented an unenviable problem to the management, faced with the task of replacing a pianist of such rare calibre and temperament. For this performance of Chopin's First Piano Concerto her place was taken by Fou Ts'ong, a Chopin specialist but on this evidence a far from effortless stylist. The surprising way in which this pianist labours over passages of only moderate difficulty in the concerto vitiates the close feeling that he clearly has for his special character.

By the middle of the first movement the course of his performance was clear. The hushed mood that heralds the development was poetic and deeply felt but, as soon as agility was called for, the music started to sound hard work, heavily and gracelessly delivered, and with by no

means all the right notes. The central Romance offered isolated moments of eloquence. But the Finale, launched with great emphasis and rhetoric, aimed for a big-boned, showy performance without the technical expertise to deliver it. The orchestral accompaniment was over-loud, even in moments of limited importance, and pulled the score about to excess.

The sensitive and indulgent manner in which the conductor, Myung Whun Chung, had led this concerto was heard to more effect in the long, subdued Largo of Shostakovich's Sixth Symphony, which followed. Textures were full and rich, the speeds relaxed, the climaxes grandiloquent, but at the price of a debilitating lack of tension.

A more abrasive style needs to take control, if the proper mood of Shostakovich's stark intensity is to be generated. In the succeeding movements instrumental entries became sharper and the temperature rose, although it would be almost impossible to miss the coarse energy that drives this symphony to its conclusion. By the last blazing minutes orchestral ensemble was at last unanimous and biting in its attack.

Richard Fairman

Dmitri Alexeev  
Elizabeth Hall

Although Dmitri Alexeev played himself in with Chopin to begin his programme and returned to Chopin to play himself out in encores, it was in Scriabin and Liszt that he concentrated the essence of his artistry and virtuoso technique.

His pianistic character has verged on the erratic on occasions in the past (he remains the only Soviet pianist to win the Leeds International Competition, in 1975), but it is that of a musician whose sensibilities are felt through the keyboard.

He wrote together a group of short Preludes and Poems by Scriabin in such quick succession that they almost became a continuous work, each separate item vanishing in a fleeting evanescence of fingerwork really before its individual character could be fully assimilated, at least by this listener.

Just a little more breath between them would have improved their effect, whereas the urging and surging of the F

sharp Sonata, No 5, showed him responsive to its impetuous contrasts of dynamics.

The adventurous excursion through the breadth and shifting perspectives of Liszt's B minor Sonata filled the second part of the programme with fascinating perception and brilliance, even if it might be thought wayward at times. Alexeev indulged the element of theatricality that Sir Frederick Ashton exploited so cleverly in his *Marguerite and Armand* ballet but with a rhythmic subtlety that avoided the concomitant emotional sentiment.

Its central Andante sostenuto section was perhaps too deliberately calculated in its expressive feeling, and its dying fall was certainly overextended in relation to the context, but there was a formidable technique to realize the fullest demands of the music through the piano's resources, and a wonderfully calculated weight of sonority in the exact placing of single notes and individual chords.

It was a reading to provoke such thought that encores were almost an intrusion.

Noel Goodwin



## A house of the damned

During the two years the French 18th-century historian Olivier Blanc spent researching *Last Letters*, just published in English translation, he was beset by nightmares. The task he had set himself was to study the thousands of letters, kept these past two centuries in the files of the Archives Nationales, written by those condemned to death by the Revolutionary Tribunal at the height of the Terror in 1794 in the hours before they were taken to the guillotine.

These letters, pitiable in their expression of desperation not to be forgotten, make harrowing reading, while providing perhaps the clearest evidence we have had of life in Paris's prisons during the Revolution. Few were received by those to whom they were addressed, for they were almost all intercepted and passed to Fouquier-Tinville, the icy public prosecutor of the Revolutionary Tribunal. His own last letter, when the fates he had controlled so ruthlessly finally turned against him, is included at the end of Blanc's book.

The book is not only a selection of 150 of these letters, it also gives accounts of the prisons of revolutionary Paris: the Plessis, the Carmes, the Luxembourg, the *maisons de santé* and most important, the building synonymous with the worst excesses of the Terror, the Conciergerie.

I met Blanc at this grim, dark edifice with its three pointed towers that overlooks the *rue d'Orléans*, its damp corridors, chambers and cells still have the power to evoke the misery of the Revolution. Inspecting them with *Last Letters* fresh in the memory

Olivier Blanc has a written a book for which the research brought nightmares even to him, with the picture it conjured up of the Paris Conciergerie (above), the building forever identified with the worst excesses of the French Revolution. Euan Cameron reports

was a disconcerting experience. Through the gates of the Conciergerie its most famous detainee, Marie-Antoinette, and the several thousand wretched victims of Robespierre's Law of 22 Prairial (June 10, 1794), which deprived them of their rights of defence, were brought to be condemned to death before setting out on the *via dolorosa* that led to the Place de la Révolution and the guillotine.

"I first came here as a child with my grandfather, and ever since the place has haunted me," said Blanc as we examined a cell where women prisoners waited to have their hair shorn before execution. "Fouquier-Tinville worked very fast. If prisoners were condemned late in the day they stayed the night here, but for many it was a question of just a few hours before they were taken to the scaffold."

Some of the letters are intensely moving; most writers proclaim their innocence, many remember their servants, their debts; their last requests are often accompanied by touching mementoes — a poem, or a lock of hair.

Here, for example, Citizen Rigaud writes: "Farewell, my brother, tomorrow I shall be no more... The peace of my heart is a sure sign of my innocence... The Tribunal has decided that I am guilty and must die. Die! At 36 on the scaffold. It is a terrible, unbearable idea..."

Had Blanc felt uncomfortable resurrecting these pathetic vestiges of misery? "One does feel guilty, and it's a considerable emotional strain... but there's also a beauty about the letters. Transcribing them was very hard... some barely knew how to write. One had to try to behave like a surgeon dissecting the material scientifically."

Through a long, vaulted corridor we passed into the cell where Marie-Antoinette spent the last weeks of her life, with its altar erected by Louis XVIII and the pitiful mementoes. A door on the far side leads into the room where the Girondin deputies held their last meeting, and from here another doorway leads out into the Cour des Femmes, with its chilling iron gateway still intact, where women waited before they were loaded into the tumbrils. "Some 800 women out of a total of 2,300 prisoners were executed in Paris at the height of the Terror — 1,350 men and women in the period of a single month," says Blanc. "The youngest was only 16½ and Fouquier-Tinville condemned one couple, blind and deaf and in their eighties, with the ignominious disclaimer, *ils ont conspiré sourdement et aveuglement*. 'It was a relief to leave this place.'

*Last Letters* is published by André Deutsch at £12.95.

## Quality behind the cult

### GALLERIES

Mervyn Peake  
Festival Hall

W. Heath  
Robinson  
Chris Beetles

Max Beerbohm  
Piccadilly

It seems to be one of the major unfairnesses of life that so many painters write not only as well as they paint, but also as well as most professional writers can contrive using, as it were, both hands. Some years ago the National Book League staged a series of exhibitions about writer-painters of the 20th century, and it was amazing how many substantial examples they could come up with, starting with Wyndham Lewis, David Jones, Michael Ayrton and Isaac Rosenberg. And then, of course, there is Mervyn Peake, now the subject of a major retrospective at the Festival Hall until April 12.

Peake is rather a special case in this company, because the two sides of his talent are so closely interconnected. The imaginative world of Wyndham Lewis is pretty consistent between his novels and his paintings, but the two spheres have quite separate existences. Peake's novels, on the other hand, are so intensely visual that one would immediately label them "painter's novels" just from the text, and even if they were not normally so closely accompanied by illustrative material which shows how visually Peake approached all his writing.

The present show, though it certainly does not undervalue the writing, is very definitely about Peake the artist, seeing this as the clearest thread through his life. It begins with childhood sketches, and illustrations made while he was still a teenager which are in fact very revealing: there is a touch of the Beardsley influence more or less inescapable in the Twenties, but a lot more, surely, of Heath Robinson, especially his illustrations for his own children's books. And, when one considers it, this was an influence, or at least a kinship, which stayed with Peake all his life. Among the least familiar works on show will be the oil paintings, which start off (shades of *Mr Pye*) with some lively portraits of old Sarkese characters, and with *Cactus* (1930), the only picture Peake ever had in the Royal Academy (and a very creditable one it is too).

Painting continues to be an important form of expression for Peake throughout the Thirties, but in the Forties it shades into the background, re-emerging rather strangely in the Fifties with curious, wilfully awkward pieces like *Crucifixion with an Angel*

(1952) and, later still, the "haunted eyes" pictures of women. It may be that the uncomfortable simplifications of these later pictures are already the result of the degenerative disease which made the exercise of Peake's arts more and more difficult in the last years before his death in 1968. But the later drawings, like those for his own poem *The Rhyme of the Flying Bomb*, seem to overcome such problems by evolving a new, broader, more expressionistic style.

Undoubtedly, though, the work by which Peake will be remembered dates mostly from the middle of his career — the Forties, when he wrote the first two Gormenghast books and did his finest series of illustrations to writings other than his own, such as *Alice in Wonderland* and *The Hunting of the Snark* (surely Peake compares favourably even with Tenniel as a Lewis Carroll illustrator, each is a gift of visualizing strange creatures with absolute conviction). *Black House* and *Treasure Island* All of these are very well represented, with a particularly illuminating display of all stages in the *Treasure Island* illustrations from first scribble to minutely finished final version. There are also less well-known series, such as his monumental designs for Wilde's *The Sphinx*.

Obviously this is the perfect moment for reappraisal, what with the revival of interest in all the Forties Neo-Romantic, artistic and literary. But Peake is personal enough in his style and approach not to need such adventitious support. It is good, however, to be so crisply reminded of the quality behind the cult.

Interestingly enough, there is a major show of Heath Robinson drawings also on in London at the moment: at

Chris Beetles until March 27. Heath Robinson was of course a writer only in a very minor way, relative to his vast output of drawings and illustrations to other men's work. But his own children's books, such as *Uncle Lubin* and *Bill the Minder*, are important because they indicate the bridge between his two worlds, that of the comical books creating mad machines for headless homes, and that of the illustrations to Shakespeare, Rabelais and other classic texts.

Those who know perfectly well what a Heath Robinson contraption would look like are often not aware that he also had this much more serious side to his talent, but his own books show him well able to be comical and poetic at the same time. And, primed with this missing link, we can immediately see how the obviously funny drawings are as exquisitely drawn as the "serious" illustrations, and have nothing to do with the Evening-of-British-Rubbish tradition. Robinson was one of the finest turn-of-the-century illustrators, and his inordinate later popularity on the grounds of invention rather than art cannot blind us to the fact.

Max Beerbohm has always been appreciated, as a draughtsman, for his invention, the art coming some way behind. However, the show of his watercolours and drawings at the Piccadilly Gallery until Saturday does remind us that, for all his apparent (real?) artlessness, he had a very cunning way with the telling line to indicate character: though we remember the captions to his most famous published drawings, there are many here that can summon up a smile entirely without captions, and even when, told the subject of the caricature, we are none the wiser. The drawing of Alfred de Rothschild as *A Patron of the Opera* is funny whether we know or care anything about the man or not, and many of the others have the same feline grace and economy. As a writer Beerbohm had technique in plenty; as a graphic artist he was content to know his limitations and work happily within them, eschewing anything he might call technique because he knew full well that any more would just get in the way.

John Russell  
Taylor



Favourable comparisons even with Tenniel in Peake's *Alice* illustration "The Messenger kept skipping" (detail)

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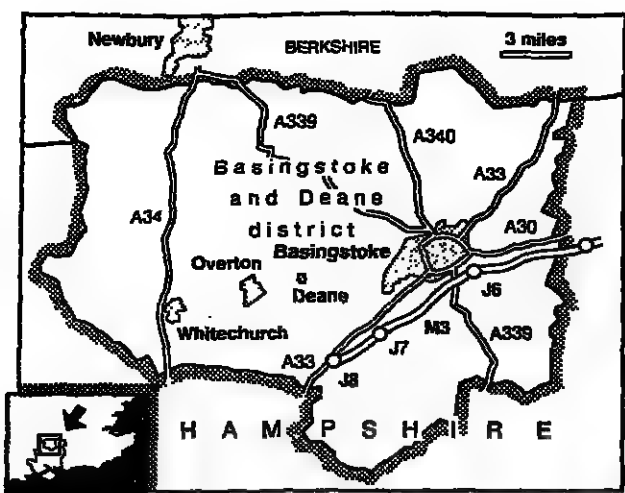
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# Skyline town, expanding fast

Pictures by Alan Weller



## A magnet for new people and jobs

Basingstoke is curiously reminiscent of one of those North American prairie cities which rear up out of the flat landscape in a huddled complex of steel, glass and concrete towers as though space, of all things, were at a premium.

The scale is smaller but, nevertheless, there you are, driving along the M3 through the rolling Hampshire countryside, escaping from the crowds and congestion of the metropolis, and suddenly there are all these tall buildings presenting a skyline which appears totally out of keeping with the traditional market towns and picturesque villages of southern England.

You may, if you so wish, escape Basingstoke altogether by simply continuing along the motorway. It does not demand your presence. But in the past 25 years it has proved a magnet for thousands of new settlers and merits attention as an example of planned economic, if not necessarily social or environmental, success.

Having included Basingstoke some years ago in a series in *The Times* on some of the uglier facets of modern Britain, I have to admit, with discretion rather than repentence, that it deserves a further visit. It cannot be called beautiful, but it is in its way

impressive, and it seems to work.

Basing View, the swathe of tall office blocks which dominates the town centre, contains a number of quite distinctive buildings, including the Wiggins Teape headquarters with its multilevel terraces of flowers and shrubs, and a remarkable new glass structure nearing completion for Sun Life of Canada Insurance.

It would all have seemed highly improbable little more than a generation ago, when it was no more than a very modest country town set amid the idyllic north Hampshire downs. Since its designation by the Greater London Council as one of a number of so-called expanding towns, it has far outstripped its rivals and was for some years rated the fastest-growing town in Britain.

The borough of Basingstoke and Deane, occupying some 250 square miles, much of which is still largely rural, boasts a population of some 140,000, of whom about 80,000 live in Basingstoke itself. As in other new and expanding towns, the people are younger than average, some 22 per cent being children under 15 compared with a national figure of 19 per cent, and fewer than 13 per cent old age pensioners, as



against more than 18 per cent in Britain as a whole.

The most remarkable statistic, however, relates to unemployment, which has scarcely altered in the past five years and is still under 6 per cent. Given the mobility of the labour force, the high degree of commuting in and out of the borough, and the wide choice of types of job available, that, in current terms, amounts to virtually full employment.

Indeed, there are signs now that constraints on growth may make it more difficult for employers to expand as much as they would like. The official policy is that the period of artificial expansion is over and that from now on the town will simply be allowed to grow naturally.

But what is natural? If you have a town in the favoured part of southern England, with a highly developed infrastructure, excellent communications, and a large number of highly successful companies engaged in high technology industries, it is not always so easy to stop what you have begun. The county council's

population projection foresees only a modest growth of about 5,000, or just over 3.5 per cent by 1990. It clearly wants to put the brake on further expansion, and there is a belief in some quarters that it is putting pressure on the district authority to resist further development.

This would be firmly denied if put to the district council planners, and there is no doubt that Basingstoke is still as keen as anywhere else to publicize its attractions. Its latest publicity brochure makes the point in no uncertain terms.

"Basingstoke is eager to promote further industrial and commercial expansion," it says. "Over 200 acres of land, both privately and publicly owned, await development, while several hundred thousand square feet of advance units are either under construction or awaiting tenants."

Nevertheless, the recent refusal of an application for a speculative office development, the first such refusal since the expansion programme began, is seen in



Nest of industry: though high tech buildings such as the Sunlife Of Canada HQ, above, now pierce the skyline, there's still room for a soothing whisper of swan lake

some quarters as significant. The reason given by the council is that there is no significant demand for further office accommodation, but Andrew Newman, of the estate agents LS Vail and Son, strongly disagrees. Many of the existing firms already in the town are

expanding fast, he points out, and there is a risk that they may be forced to look elsewhere for new premises. There is at present only one speculative development of any size under construction, the striking 135,000 sq ft Churchill Plaza, due to open in June.

Because high-tech firms are able and willing to pay high rents, land prices tend to get pushed up to levels which traditional manufacturing industries cannot afford.

These, however, can be seen as relatively minor hiccoughs in a saga of growth and prosperity. Not everyone would choose to live in Basingstoke and significantly, as in the case of most new towns, those who can afford to live in one or other of the picturesque villages in the neighbourhood generally choose to do so. The mainly working-class housing estates in the town itself have engendered the usual social problems that afflict any such community that has no deep roots to sustain it.

## Getting there on time

Good communications are not in themselves enough to ensure economic health; the motorways sweeping across the industrial wastelands of the Midlands and the North of England testify to that. But what is certain is that prosperity is impossible without good communications.

From the start Basingstoke has been able to sell itself on its accessibility. The M3 London to Southampton motorway runs right past its doorstep. London is less than an hour's drive, and Southampton docks barely half an hour.

The completion of the M25 London orbital motorway has made this even more relevant, cutting the journey time to less than 45 minutes and greatly improving access to the Midlands and the North. Alternatively, there is ready access

## The traffic moves fast around town

to the A34 trunk road from Birmingham to Southampton. London's Waterloo station is only 45 minutes away, and on weekdays there are at least four trains an hour. There are at least two trains an hour to Southampton and Bournemouth, Inter-City services to Reading, Oxford, Birmingham and the North, and an hourly shuttle service to Reading to link with trains to Bristol and South Wales.

As an alternative to Heathrow, Southampton's Eastleigh airport has its own railway station and regular services by Air UK to Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels and the Channel Islands. There are National Express bus services to London, the South Coast, the West and the Midlands.

The circulatory traffic scheme may seem a little intimidating to visitors, if for no other reason than that the traffic moves so fast that there is no time to read the inadequate signposts. As one proud local pointed out, waving an arm in the direction, "look at that. Monday morning, and not a holdup anywhere. There are not many places where you would find that."



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Basingstoke enjoys a modern shopping centre, a main line railway station (London in 40 minutes), good restaurants and its own theatres. Near to completion is an international ice-rink, the base for a major leisure complex.

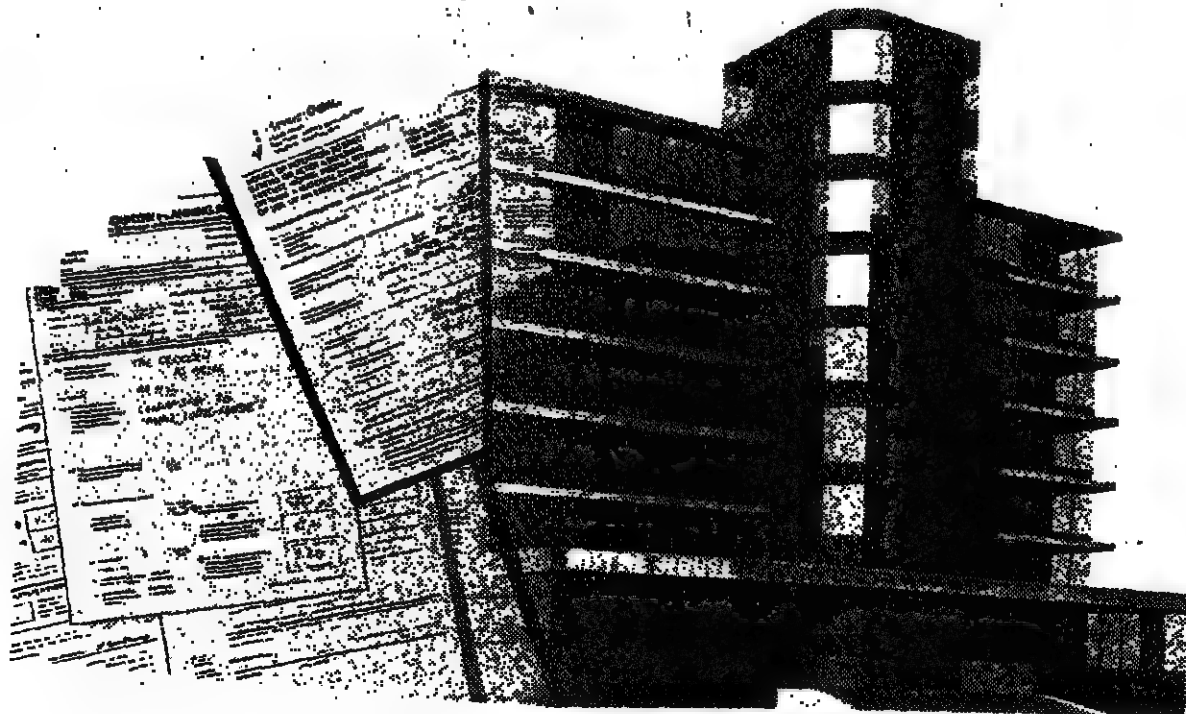
Perhaps the problem with jokers is that they cannot cope with the space, the acres of greenery, the beautiful countryside and its attractive villages. We like it! Would you?

Maybe now you see why the joke's on you. But if you would really like to find out a bit more about the true situation come along to our Reception in Central London on 12th May. To get your Free Invitation just ring us on 0256-56222 ext. 362 or write to our Public Relations Officer.

# BASINGSJOKE

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FOCUS

BASINGSTOKE/2



Leisure pleasure: Marilyn Hinds, the council's chief estate surveyor, is proud of the town's contribution: a multi-purpose sports centre. Right, the AA's HQ

Building beauties

The great bank of office buildings dominating the Basingstoke skyline tells its own success story. From the modest headquarters of the Automobile Association to the spectacular new Churchill Plaza, the array includes IBM, Wiggins Teape, Snamprogetti, Digital Equipment, Sony Broadcast, Thomas de La Rue, Provident Life, BOCM Silcock and the Civil Service Commission.

Among the government departments that have established regional offices are the Ministry of Defence, the Employment Service Agency, the Health and Safety Executive, the Factory Inspectorate, the Department of Health and Social Security, and the Inland Revenue.

Apart from providing thousands of jobs for generally well paid white collar workers in one of the more salubrious parts of southern England, the serried fortresses of Basing View offer a fascinating contrast in architectural styles. Possibly the most distinguished among them is Gateway House, the headquarters of the Wiggins Teape group, which has won a number of design awards for its innovative use of rooftop gardens.

By far the most interesting new building, with the possible exception of the Churchill Plaza, is the new headquarters of Sun Life of Canada, an L-shaped seven-storey structure connected by glass-clad link bridges to a rectangular five-storey office building around an enclosed atrium.

The building was designed by Elsom, Pack and Roberts.

It is a far cry from the Imperial surroundings of Trafalgar Square, and may be seen as a microcosm of the changing face of Britain. Maurice Bates, the company's vice-president, said: "We were determined to provide a highly prestigious building to match the position that the company holds."

"The town provided the most attractive site, after an extensive appraisal of more than 40 towns and cities, with good communications and an available and expanding labour market. A major factor was also our concern that the location we selected should provide our staff with the opportunity to improve their quality of life."

Wiggins Teape, leading from Basingstoke.

Wiggins Teape is one of the world's leading paper companies and a major force in Europe. Actively investing in its pulp manufacturing, speciality paper-making and merchanting activities throughout the continent, its success is growing with Basingstoke.



The Wiggins Teape Group Limited, PO Box 88, Gateway House, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 2EE

A shopper's delight on the way

Basingstoke, according to the publicity brochure, has a "fine" shopping centre. Others would put it in less glowing terms, and anyway it rather depends on which part of it you are talking about.

The old town centre is pleasant enough. London Street, which runs through the centre of it, has been pedestrianized and landscaped, and there are plans to do the same to the rest of it.

But the older part of the modern centre, an architecturally dismal complex straddling a main dual carriage-way traffic artery, is a typical piece of 1960s "tat" and is already showing signs of premature senility.

It is not beyond redemption, however, and a scheme is in hand by the district council and the freehold

owners, Prudential Assurance, for a £10 million facelift for the 500,000 sq ft of shops.

The second stage, which opened in 1981 and was financed by the Post Office Pension Fund, is a considerable improvement. But some observers doubt whether this type of town centre, despite its nearness to the bus station, the railway station and what is claimed to be the largest multi-storey car park in Europe, is what people nowadays really want.

The doubters point to the success of the two main out-of-town sub-centres at Chicheham, to the north-east of the town, where most of the recent housing development has taken place, and at Brighton Hill, on the south-west.

The former is grouped around a

Tesco superstore, and the latter round a rather smaller Sainsbury's. To recover its pride and go one up on its great rivals, Sainsbury's has obtained planning permission in principle for a third, even bigger development.

The argument about whether out-of-town shopping is the future way forward, and the economic damage it may or may not do to town and city centres, is not, of course, confined to Basingstoke. It is a national issue, but there are signs that, at least in the wealthier parts of Britain, the two can coexist quite happily.

In Basingstoke, for example, town centre facilities grew from 760,000 sq ft in 1974 to just over 1,000,000 sq ft in 1984. In the same period the outside centre slightly more than doubled, from 117,000 sq ft to

242,000 sq ft, but there is little indication that this damaged the central area.

A recent survey by Pearsons, the chartered surveyors, concluded that, by comparison with national averages, Basingstoke town centre had a lower proportion of convenience outlets, perhaps reflecting the significance of the district centres for food retailing.

"The kinds of shop in the centre, for example the relatively high proportion of jewellery, and books and stationery outlets, and of banks and other services, can perhaps be seen as a reflection of the relatively wealthy hinterland served by the centre," it said. The strength of the centre is reflected in its low vacancy rate.

be built during the next few years, bringing the total within the borough from just over 50,000 in 1985 to an estimated 56,500 in 1989. Significantly nearly 5,000 of these new units will be in the town and fewer than 1,500 in the rural areas.

At the top of the range are four-bedroom detached houses in Old Basing and Lychpit for between 278,500 and 318,000. At the other end of the scale a studio apartment near the town centre might be found for as little as 23,000.

For a 15th-century thatched, beamed cottage in a picture postcard village, if you need to know the price, you cannot afford it.

Picture postcard pressures

The housing position in Basingstoke reflects the dilemma to be found almost anywhere in South-east England.

Do you continue to allow building of new estates on greenfield sites to meet the inevitable needs of an expanding population, or do you try to switch the emphasis to the surrounding villages, substantial parts of which have been designated as conservation areas, and whose inhabitants are almost universally opposed to new building within their boundaries?

To that extent Basingstoke could be described as a victim of its own success. Back in the

brave new world of the 1950s and 1960s, when the planners conceived the notion of a ring of "expanded towns" which, together with the new towns, would relieve the pressures on Greater London, they could hardly have foreseen that a generation later those towns would themselves be under similar pressures.

In the 1960s most of the housing development in and around the town was carried out by the local authority, serviceable but uninspiring. In the 1970s the emphasis

switched sharply in favour of private builders, and in the past few years the council has built very little other than housing for those with special needs, such as the elderly and the handicapped.

Since the introduction of legislation to allow council tenants to buy their homes, more than 4,000 former local authority houses and flats have been transferred to private ownership.

However, since the early

development has been in the hands of the local authority.

It has recently embarked on a number of joint-venture schemes with private builders, whereby the latter are provided with sites at a sizeable discount in return for a commitment to keep the sale price of the houses low.

The council's present policy is to release greenfield sites bit by bit to keep pace with demand, and to avoid a speculative boom. It calculates that about 1,000 houses a year will

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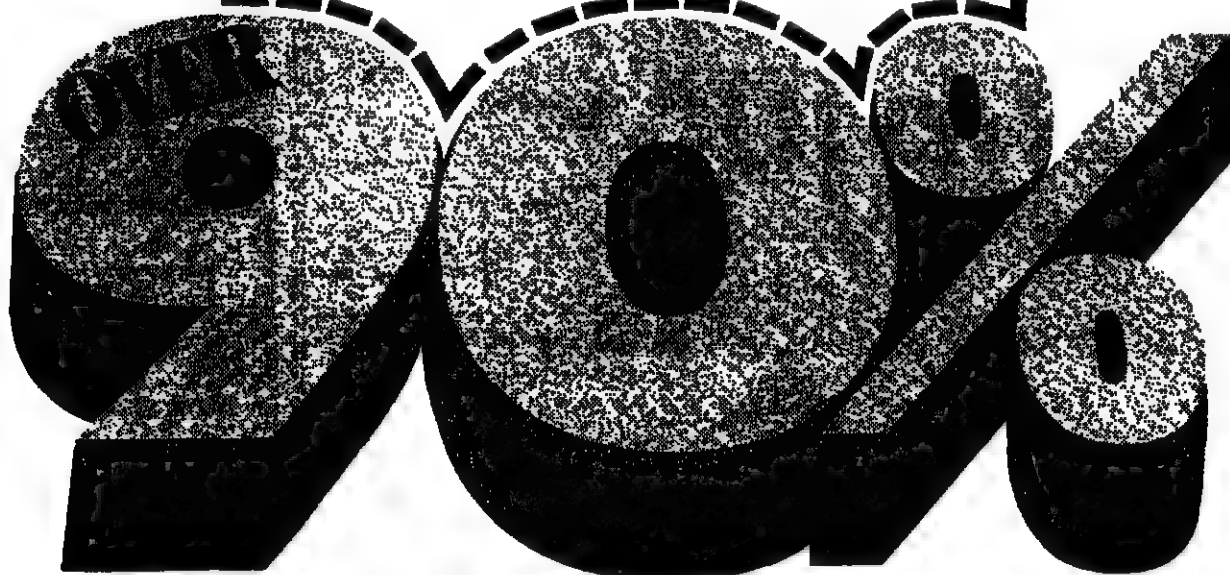
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BASINGSTOKE/3

(FOCUS)

# Bigger business in a pleasant land



Soothing effect: while picturesque Old Basing dozes in the sun, workers at Lilly Industries package pills for aches and pains

## Jane Austen and the duchess

Opinions may vary about the merits of Basingstoke's architecture, its ambience and its desirability as a place to live or work. But what cannot be denied is the quality and attraction of its surroundings, which must certainly have influenced many of the companies that have chosen to move there.

One of the great advantages of a growth centre such as Basingstoke is that it concentrates industry and commerce in one place and leaves the surrounding countryside unscathed.

The gentle, rolling landscape and secluded valleys contain dozens of attractive towns and villages which, apart from a steep rise in property prices, have remained largely unaffected by their ebullient neighbour.

An example on the very edge of the town is the village of Old Basing, which would grace any picture postcard and where, not surprisingly, houses cost a small fortune.

The former Basing House is, alas, no more, its owners having held out against Cromwell's army, in return for

### TOWN FACTS

- Population: 136,000
- Area: 250 sq miles
- Rateable value: £21,852,271
- Politics: MP for Basingstoke, Andrew Hunter (Con), maj 12,445; MP for Hampshire North-West, David Mitchell (Con), maj 12,122
- Industry: pharmaceuticals, electronics, motor vehicle accessories, precision instruments, chemicals, mechanical handling gear

and Sensibility. Just the other side of the motorway is the village of Dummer, which enjoyed its moment of fame last summer as the home village of the Duchess of York.

One of the great centres of racing is only a few miles away, based on Newbury, Lambourn, the Berkshire Downs and, within the borough itself, Highclere and Kingsclere. Both have famous studs. Two of the greatest Derby winners, Midday Sun and Mill Reef, were bred at Kingsclere, and the Queen's horses are stabled nearby.

Highclere, the home of the remarkable and delightful Earl of Carnarvon, whose son Lord Forthchester is the Queen's racing manager, is an impressive Gothic pile, the work of Charles Barry, the architect of the Palace of Westminster.

It is not open to the public, unlike Stratford Saye, the home of the Dukes of Wellington; the house and grounds were presented to the Iron Duke for his services to the nation, and in return his contemporary descendant has opened a country park on the estate.

Another notable stately home in the borough is The Wyne, the first English country house to be built with a portico and now the property of the National Trust.

Going back in time, there is the Calleva museum at Silchester, which contains some of the most extensive Roman relics in Britain, and forward to this century, the impressive Sandham Memorial Chapel, designed as a First World War memorial, the walls of which are covered with paintings by Stanley Spencer of war scenes at Salonica.

But perhaps the most vivid contrast to be found to the last 20th century assertiveness of Basingstoke is in the valley of the River Test, the world-famous chalk stream, which rises about five miles to the west of the town.

It is not just fishermen who find it enchanting; the towns of Overton and Whitechurch, and the villages of Ashe, Freefolk - so named because it was built for Huguenot refugees from France - and Laverstoke, are sheer delight.

End

LOOKING FOR SPACE TO GROW?

A few prestigious sites still remain on the

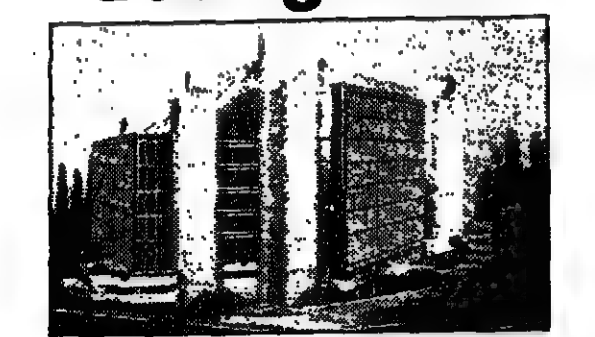
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For further details contact: Chief Estates Surveyor Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council Civic Offices, London Rd., Basingstoke, Hampshire Telephone 0256 56222 ext. 362

**V · I · A · B · L · E · S**

## Canada Moves To Basingstoke



Sun Life of Canada moves from Central London to Basingstoke in May 1987. The £18m development will provide outstanding facilities for 600 staff and includes the latest office technology: a fitting nerve-centre for the British Headquarters of one of the world's largest life insurance companies.

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One of the innovative high-tech buildings at the Carlet Business Centre, Wade Road, Basingstoke. Agents for the five units of 5,000, 12,000 and 24,000 sq ft are Bernard Thorpe (01-498 6353) and Pearsons (0256) 462222.

Long before the advent of the office boom, which permanently changed the appearance and character of the town centre, Basingstoke was a small but thriving industrial catchment area in an otherwise largely non-industrialized region.

Some of the more important employers had put down roots many years before the agreement between the local authority and the Greater London Council to designate it as an expanding town to absorb overspill from the capital.

They include Lamsing Bagnall forklift trucks, the aviation division of Smiths Industries, and Lilly Industries Ltd, the first overseas subsidiary of the American pharmaceutical giant, Eli Lilly, which established its factory nearly 50 years ago.

Lilly claims to be the oldest large employer still doing business in the town, and last year it moved its administrative headquarters there, its example has been followed by a number of other pharmaceutical manufacturers, including Boots, Oxoid and Johnson & Johnson.

Apart from pharmaceuticals, the most significant industries are electronics and computers - which include Sperry Flight Systems, ITC Cannon, Motorola, Technicon, Vickers Medical and Powell Duffy - and

engineering, including Eaton, Marbair, ITW, Lennox and Montgomery Reid.

Basingstoke has also become a regional centre for the thriving printing industry, including Macmillan, McCordquodale and Pan Books. Portals, which prints banknotes, is obliged to dispatch its precious cargoes in high-security convoys with police escorts and wailing sirens. This prompts the question whether potential ambushers have ever carefully assessed the marketability of mint, numbered notes.

The late 1970s and early 1980s saw a boom in warehousing and storage facilities, and the establishment of a number of regional distribution centres, notably for the food and drink trade. Companies include Sainsbury's, Berry Bros, Bulmers, Gilbey's and the Klix vending division of Mars. The Mars group has also established two factories for the manufacture of vending machines and the ingredients for the drinks that they dispense.

The substantial spread of small firms is split between the main council-owned industrial estates at Daneshill and Houndsmill, and a number of smaller, privately-owned developments. The present focus of growth is the Crockford Lane estate, the first stage of which consists of 125 acres being developed by the Property Security Investment Trust and on which the first two units are nearing completion.

The infrastructure is in place, and a further 25 acres, owned by Hampshire County Council, are awaiting the go-ahead.

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Executive Editor  
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
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FT-SE 100  
1991.8 (-8.2)

Bargains  
49571 (48407)

USM (Datastream)  
158.52 (+1.25)

THE POUND

US dollar  
1.5795 (+0.0050)

W German mark  
2.8922 (-0.0238)

Trade-weighted  
71.4 (-0.2)

Meggitt in line for big US deal

A contract to supply the US Marine Corps with aircraft respirators, won by the British engineering group, Meggitt Holdings, could lead to a much larger deal with the US Air Force.

The Marine order for the equipment, which offers protection against nuclear fall-out and biological weapons, was for about £5 million, but USAF orders could be worth ten times that amount.

The respirators, made by Meggitt's Negretti Aviation subsidiary, are being evaluated by the USAF and a decision is expected next year.

Meggitt yesterday unveiled records of profits for the 14 months to end-December. The company raised its final dividend to 1.25p a share from the 1p it forecast last year when it was fighting a bid battle for Bessibell.

Mr Ken Coates, the managing director, confirmed yesterday that exploratory bid talks held with the Rotork engineering group had been halted after opposition to a deal from Rotork directors.

Telegraph, page 23

Tesco forecast

Supermarkets group Tesco has forecast profits of £175 million for the 53 weeks to the end of February this year. The figure, which includes £9 million of profits from property sales, is included in the formal offer documents in connection with the £131 million bid for Yorkshire-based Hillards group.

Earnings fall

Consulting engineers' overseas earnings fell to £508 million last year compared with £562 million the year before, the Association of Consulting Engineers said yesterday. Despite the world decline in the construction market, there was growth in contracts for water supply, hydro-electric schemes and nuclear power.

Biffex poll

Members of the Baltic International Freight Futures Exchange will be balloted this week on whether the exchange should merge with the London Commodity Exchange, or come under a new umbrella of Baltic futures exchanges. The final decision rests with the Biffex board at the end of this month.

USSR bid

Davy Corporation, the engineering contractor, confirmed it was bidding for work on a fibre plant at Blagoveshchensk, Siberia, in the Soviet Union. A company team was in Moscow to negotiate for three main contracts, but it was not known who the rivals bidders were.

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MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS	
New York	2243.75 (-14.91)
Dow Jones	21415.37 (-82.58)
Nikkei Dow	2689.57 (-51.60)
Hong Kong	274.10 (-1.1)
Amsterdam Gen	1629.2 (-7.1)
Sydney AO	1701.9 (-9.8)
Frankfurt	4506.24 (+10.87)
Commerzbank	439.20 (-2.0)
General	336.60 (same)
Paris CAC	336.60 (same)
Zurich S&K Gen	n/a
London FT	1576.6 (-7.3)
FT 100	1991.8 (-8.2)
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INTEREST RATES	
London: Bank Base	10%
3-month interbank	9 1/4-9 1/2%
3-month eligible bills	9 1/4-9 1/2%
buying rate	
US: Prime Rate	7 1/2%
Federal Funds	6 1/4%
3-month Treasury	5 1/2-5 5/8%
30-year bonds	8 1/2-8 3/4%

CURRENCIES	
London:	New York:
£1	\$1.5795
DM	2.8922
FF	166.35
Yen	161.32
Index	103.4
ESU	17.13040
SDR	20.798871

Budget boost for spending  
**Sharp rise in retail sales**

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Spending in the shops rose sharply last month, removing doubts about the underlying strength of consumer spending. The volume of retail sales rose by 2.2 per cent, recovering much of its decline in the two previous months. Sales volume was 6.4 per cent up on a year earlier.

The value of sales last month averaged £1,725 million a week and sales by value were 9 per cent higher than in February last year. Retail sales should be given a further boost as a result of income tax cuts expected in today's Budget and the prospect of lower mortgage rates.

Much of last month's increase in sales reflects the recovery from the depressed January figures, when many shoppers were unable to get to town centres, and when a lot of spending was deferred.

In January, food retailers and local shops did exceptionally well.

According to Department of Trade and Industry officials, sales by small retailers, including corner and village shops, were strong again last month. "The renaissance of the corner shop continues," a spokesman said.

There was a recovery also in

consumer durable sales last month, according to preliminary information. These were the main casualty of the severe winter weather in January.

In the latest three months, the volume of retail sales was down by 0.1 per cent on the previous three months but nearly six per cent up on the corresponding period a year earlier.

The 2.2 per cent rise in sales volume last month came after declines of 2.2 per cent in January and 1.1 per cent in December. The volume index of retail sales last month was 125.0 (1980 = 100), below the record, achieved last November, of 126.4.

A spokeswoman for the Retail Consortium said that the organization was "very pleased" with the February figures. Evidence from members pointed to the strength of spring fashion lines during a relatively mild month.

The consortium is expecting sales to remain strong after today's Budget, which is expected to enhance disposable incomes through both income tax cuts and lower mortgage rates.

The Confederation of British Industry's distributive

trades survey, published at the end of last week, predicted a buoyant spring for retail sales. In March last year, boosted by traditional pre-Budget spending on alcohol and tobacco, there was a jump of nearly 2 per cent in retail sales volume.

The strength of spending in the shops has had an important impact on the Chancellor's Budget calculations. VAT receipts having been particularly strong.

But the slight reduction in the pace of retail sales growth over the winter months may not have been an unwelcome development for the Chancellor. Had sales been growing at the breakneck speed of last autumn it would have been difficult for Mr Lawson to sidestep the accusation that any tax cuts announced today would be adding fuel to an already roaring fire.

Signs of stronger growth in exports, alongside steadier retail sales growth, will enable the Chancellor to argue that the economy is now on a more balanced recovery path.

The Budget is expected to confirm the autumn statement forecast of 4 per cent consumer spending growth this year, after an expansion of 5 per cent last year.

New CBI chief hit by Lucas walk out

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry yesterday gained a new director-general, Mr John Banham, and lost one of its most senior member companies, Lucas Industries, which said it was disillusioned with the organization's representation of the interests of manufacturing industry.

For Mr Banham, former head of the Government's Audit Commission, his first day as the leading spokesman for British industry, was hardly auspicious. The resignation of Lucas, one of the leading car and aerospace component producers, appeared to leave the CBI floundering.

The new director-general was said to be "too busy" to give interviews or even appear for photographs. Lucas, meanwhile, said it was leaving the CBI - and denying the organization its £30,000 annual subscription - because it felt that manufacturing was no longer being fully represented in the corridors of power. The Budget, said a spokesman, was of little interest to Lucas, of more pressing concern was the lack of British investment in research and development and the continuing shortage of skilled technicians and other workers.

CBI spokesmen attempted to put a brave face on the Lucas resignation, pointing out that 85 per cent of The Times list of the top 100 British companies were members.

Lucas's complaints centre on its belief that the growing number of service industry members has caused the CBI to concentrate on short-term issues. A spokesman said yesterday that the decision was "permanent".

Despite the loss of the Rover Group, which withdrew from CBI membership for cost reasons, Northern Engineering Industries and Rolls-Royce aero engines, the CBI maintains that it still represents 250,000 businesses.

Montague men for Scrimgeour

By Carol Ferguson

Equity market-makers at Midland Montague are waiting no time in seeking new employees. Eight have just been recruited by Scrimgeour Vickers, the stockbroking arm of Citicorp Investment Bank.

The move follows Midland's announcement last week that it is pulling out of equity market-making after heavy losses. Scrimgeour Vickers will not be paying any premiums or "golden hellos" to the new employees.

Midland had planned to redeploy some of its market-makers, but not all 38 of them. "We will not put obstacles in the way of any who want to leave but we do not want to lose all of them," said a spokesman, Mr Alan Macdonald.

"If an individual was a broker on October 27 (the date of Big Bang), it will not be difficult for him to return to his previous way of life." Scrimgeour Vickers has announced that Mr John Hewitt, head of research, is to be its new managing director, taking over from Citicorp's Mr Fred Pettit. Mr Hewitt will be named deputy chairman of Scrimgeour Vickers at the next board meeting.

Mr Pettit, who masterminded the acquisition and integration of Scrimgeour Vickers, positioning the group for the changes made nec-

essary for Big Bang, will be returning to the Regional Directorate of Citicorp Investment Bank.

Including the acquisition of two British stockbrokers, Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee and Vickers de Costa, Citicorp spent £75 million on acquisitions in preparation for Big Bang.

Citicorp did not buy a jobbing firm and has built up its market-making capability from scratch. The new recruits will be joining a team of 52 market-makers in Britain and a total of 110 analysts worldwide.

According to research published by Salomon Brothers, the US securities firm, Scrimgeour Vickers' market share in equities has risen from 5 per cent to 8 per cent. Confirming these figures, Mr Hewitt said: "Our market share is significant and these are pretty good numbers."

Mr Terry Connor, head of market-making at Scrimgeour, said: "Because we did not buy a jobbing firm, we had no new infrastructure of costs. We make money in market-making, and we have made money consistently since Big Bang. Don't get me wrong, the environment is tough and it will get tougher. But we want a 10 per cent market share next year."

£67m Dixons stake sold

Dixons, the high street electrical goods chain, sold the bulk of its holding in Woolworth yesterday for £67.5 million.

The shares were bought during the company's unsuccessful £1.8 million takeover bid for Woolworth last year.

The £8.3 million shares were sold to the US securities house, Salomon Brothers, at

813p compared with the average purchase price during the bid battle of about £7.

Salomon later placed the stock with a wide spread of institutional investors both in Britain and overseas.

Dixons is retaining 1 million of its Woolworth shares as an investment. "They are doing well and we think they will go higher," said Mr Richard Kalms, of Dixons.

Governor wants dialogue to avoid bid anger

Jaw is better than war

By Our City Staff

Big shareholders unhappy about the performance of companies should signal their unhappiness more clearly and more promptly "and management needs to listen," the Governor of the Bank of England, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, said in a speech to the Industrial Society yesterday.

He again urged companies and big City shareholders to enter into a much closer dialogue to prevent the mistrust that leads to takeover bids and the damage takeover battles cause.

But after defending the freedom to make takeover bids, the Governor made it clear he does not intend to let up in his condemnation of the tactics used in takeover battles or of artificial attempts to promote takeovers that have no logic.

Answering questions after the speech, he said: "I am not happy about the sharpness, contentiousness and acrimony that takeovers can produce. In the past six months, all the events that have cast reflection on the commercial integrity of the City or the directors of public companies have been the



Leigh-Pemberton yesterday: acrimony in City

result of a takeover bid of one sort or another." Mr Leigh-Pemberton said his remarks applied both to the cases of insider trading and to the temptation to "cut corners" during a bid. The Bank played a leading role in the clean-up which followed the Guinness scandal and the Governor said he had been accused by the head of one of the City's top merchant banks of "drifting towards interventionism."



Maitland Smith: modern approach to an antique business

Mallett comes to market at £16m

Mallett, antique dealers, is coming to market. It is seeking a placing of 6.24 million shares at 120p each, capitalizing Mallett at £16.6 million. Brokers to the issue are Greenwell Montagu Securities.

The shares being placed represent 45.2 per cent of the enlarged issued share capital, and comprise 4.2 million new shares to raise £4.7 million and a total of 2.04 million being sold by the executive directors and by Sears.

Following the placing, the executive directors will hold 28.8 per cent and Sears will hold 25.9 per cent. Proceeds of the placing will be used mainly to repay bank borrowings and unsecured loan stock, and to provide working capital for

further expansion. Dealings are expected to begin on Friday.

The Mallett group, with Mr Geoffrey Maitland Smith as chairman, deals in high quality antique furniture and works of art, specialising in the eighteenth century and Regency periods. Turnover has increased from £3.6 million in 1982 to nearly £8 million last year, and pretax profit before exceptional items from £734,000 to £2 million.

Pro-forma net tangible assets on December 31, taking into account the net proceeds of the issue, amounted to \$6.5 million, equivalent to 47p per share.

If the shares had been held publicly throughout 1986, the directors would have expected to recommend a 3p dividend.

EFT bank opposition fades away

By Michael Tate

Shareholders in Edinburgh Financial Trust yesterday voted unanimously to allow Mr Hamish Grossart and Mr Hugh Barry to transform their company into Scotland's first independent quoted merchant bank.

The expected opposition to the proposals evaporated before the annual meeting when counter-proposals from Waverley Asset Management and Mr Bruce Judge, a New Zealand entrepreneur, were withdrawn.

The Waverley-Judge camp, which still speaks for 21.3 per cent of the shares, was undecided last night about its strategy on EFT.

Under the proposals agreed yesterday, EFT will concentrate on three main areas: corporate finance, fund management and asset finance, which Mr Grossart describes as "quasi-banking."

Governor wants dialogue to avoid bid anger

Jaw is better than war

He said it was difficult to find the "right tightrope" to walk between intervening and adhering to the philosophy of the free market. But in his speech he said: "I have been concerned when predators have sought to use a minority shareholding to unsettle a perfectly well-managed company and to create an atmosphere in which a bid becomes daily expected."

"Such activity can amount to a thoroughly irresponsible exercise of shareholder power, and an abuse of the arrangements that we have in this country for the protection of shareholders' interests."

The Governor said the Government was considering suggestions for changes in the rules surrounding takeovers. Mr Leigh-Pemberton's speech mainly dealt with the links between the City and industry, with the Governor defending the City's record as a source of long-term funds.

But in reply to a question, Mr Leigh-Pemberton said he saw no real need for a "politically-motivated bank" and he doubted whether it "would really stand up to the test."

Austrians give back Guinness payment

By Lawrence Lever

Guinness's fight to recover £25 million worth of payments made by its former management received a welcome, if modest, boost yesterday when an Austrian bank paid back £234,000 plus interest, which Guinness had paid it.

Zentralsparkasse und Kommerzbank of Vienna had been paid the money in June last year - two months after Guinness won control of Distillers. It represented losses incurred by the bank on Guinness shares it had bought.

When the bank's name appeared on one of the 11 mystery invoices that made up the £25 million, it immediately held an internal inquiry into the circumstances of the payment. It has maintained that the transaction was not illegal under Austrian law.

However the arrangement between Guinness and the bank may have breached provisions of the Companies Act 1985, which make it illegal for a company to provide financial assistance for the purchase of its own shares except in limited circumstances.

Guinness issued a statement yesterday, saying that after "full disclosure of the circumstances to the relevant authorities and to ourselves, Guinness accepts that the Austrian bank was not aware that any breach of UK law might have occurred."

According to the statement, the bank accepted "that it ought not to have received this payment from Guinness" and "considered it right not only to repay the principal but also interest from date of payment to date of repayment." The interest paid by the bank came to an additional £18,000.

The repayment brings the total recovered by Guinness out of the mystery invoices to more than £7.5 million. Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron International has already returned £3.8 million that it received, while S&W Berisford returned a payment of almost £1.5 million.

Guinness is still trying to recover more of the £25 million paid out by its former management, including £5.2 million paid to Mr Thomas Ward - a Guinness director - via a Jersey nominee company.

"We are not anxious or willing

Pearson allows £18m for payoffs

By Alexandra Jackson

Pearson, publisher of the Financial Times, has made an extraordinary provision of £18 million after tax relief to cover the cost of discontinuing paper's printing operation at Bracken House in the City of London, scheduled for next year.

Details of the provision were published yesterday when the group reported an 11 per cent increase in pretax profits to £121.1 million in the year to the end of December 1986. Earnings per share grew by a quarter to 37.4p. A final dividend of 7p makes a total of 12p for the year.

The information and entertainment division contributed 57 per cent of group turnover and 53 per cent of trading profits in 1986. The Financial Times was the largest single contributor to this division's profits. Analysts believe that it made well over £20 million last year.

Pearson announced plans to build a printing plant at East India Dock in the London Docklands last August. At that time, the investment was expected to cost the group £35 million. However, further details revealed yesterday show

FINANCIAL TIMES

that the board has now approved £70 million for it.

The relocation will involve 404 redundancies. Mr Frank Barlow, chief executive of the Financial Times, was not prepared to quantify the likely cost savings, although he drew attention to figures frequently quoted in Fleet Street of £20,000 per redundancy. On this basis, analysts calculate, there would be immediate savings of £8 million.

According to Lord Blakenham, chairman and chief executive of Pearson, the move to Docklands will result in an increase in the size of the paper and an improvement in its print quality which will allow more advertising.

The future of Bracken House, in Cannon Street, has not been decided yet. It is being assessed by several firms of architects and is thought to have considerable development potential.

There has been much speculative interest in Pearson's shares lately because of the 4.8 per cent shareholding owned by Mr Li Ka Shing's Hong Kong trading company Hutchison Whampoa.

Telegraph, page 23

Ordnance unions to strike

By Teresa Poole, Business Correspondent

Unions representing the 16,000 workers at Royal Ordnance yesterday announced a national stoppage of work at its factories next Tuesday and a lobby of Parliament in protest against the imminent privatization of the arms manufacturer.

British Aerospace said it was in a strong position to increase RO's overseas sales and develop new high-technology products. GKN, which manufactures the Warrior and Saxon armoured personnel carriers, said RO would be a logical extension to its defence interests.

A Ferranti spokesman said: "We are not anxious or willing

to go into why we decided not to bid. There is no single reason."

The unions have predicted more than 3,000 redundancies and the closure of two or three factories if privatization goes ahead. According to union representatives, Mr Younger said: "I do not intend to discuss with them (the prospective buyers) what they will do with the business."

Mr Jack Dromey, of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said the work-force at RO's Leeds tank factory had been halved to less than 800 since its sale.

This advertisement does not constitute an invitation to any person to subscribe for or purchase shares. Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the Ordinary shares capital of Mallett PLC, issued and now being placed, to be admitted to the Official List.

MALLETT PLC

(Incorporated in England and Wales under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1981. Registered No. 1838233)

Placing by  
LLOYDS MERCHANT BANK  
LIMITED

of 6,240,000 Ordinary shares of 5p each  
at 120p per share

Share capital	
Authorised	Issued and now being issued, fully paid
£1,200,000	£690,003
in Ordinary shares of 5p each	

The Mallett Group, one of the oldest established antique dealers in the United Kingdom, deals in high quality antique furniture and works of art, specialising in the eighteenth century and Regency periods.

Lloyds Merchant Bank Limited has placed 6,240,000 Ordinary shares as to 25 per cent, through Panmure Gordon & Co. Limited as part of the Placing arrangements.

Using Particulars relating to the Company are contained in new issue cards circulated by Exel Statistical Services Limited and copies of the Using Particulars may be obtained during normal business hours, up to and including 31st March, 1987, from:

Lloyds Merchant Bank Limited,  
40-66 Queen Victoria Street,  
London EC4P 4EL

Greenwell Montagu Securities,  
Row Belk House,  
Broad Street,  
London EC4M 9EL

Panmure Gordon & Co. Limited,  
9 Moorfields Highwalk,  
London EC2Y 9DS

and, during normal business hours on 18th and 19th March, 1987, from:

The Company Announcements Office,  
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17th March, 1987



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**By Michael Clark**

The British Gas partly-paid shares slipped 1p to 80p yesterday as 15 million shares

After hitting a low of 167p back in December, shares of Marks and Spencer, the jewel in the high street crown, are

Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep

Yesterday the shares eased 4p to 229p — just 10p below their high — as they ran into profit-taking, along with the other retailers, following the recent strong run.

Fears of a boardroom quarrel following last week's surprise resignation of Mr Roger Pedder as director continued to haunt Ward White, the Zodiac Toys. Payless DIY and Owen Owen stores group. The price fell 9p

● **HONGKONG:** A technical selloff drove most share prices sharply lower yesterday in moderate trading on Hongkong's stock market.

## ALPHA STOCKS

Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000
Allied-Lyons	858	Gen Accident	59	Redford	794
Armstrong	7,000	GEC	2,860	Reichl Colmas	323
ASDA-AFI	2,600	Gleco		Reid Int	325
Avco	827	Glitsch T	76	Reiners	76
Avco Fr Foods	2,659	Granda	1,000	Reich Group	537
BTR	6,000	Grand Mat	814	RTZ	285
BXT		GUS 'A'	582	Roverline	1,000
Barclays	2,500	GHE	276	Royal B of Steel	1,000
Bayer	1,400	GHE	1,300	Royl Int	139
Bechem	1,600	Guire	412	Sactol	108
Blue Circle	357	Hammerston P	178	Sabinary (L)	822
BOC	7,000	Hawley	7,104	Sci Newell	617
Borg	6,000	Hewlett Kideley	100	Seaboard	4,100
BPB Ind	213	Hilwood	2,300	Seaboard Sp -	555
BPCO	1,300	Imp Chem Ind	910	Shel	3,500
Br Aerospace	1,300	Imp Cont Gas	235	Shen & Hepshire	5,500
Bray	1,000	Int Paper	212	Shen Int	1,000
Br Gas	15,000	Lastlake	196	Sin Corp	236
Br Petroleum	1,200	Land Securities	7,200	Sironacore	4,400
Br Telecom	800	Liger & Co	892	Sin Affairs	92
Brylcrex	712	Lipson	186	Sin Int	186
Buzel	712	Luxora	518	Sin P/F	6,000
Barton	517	Martin & Spencer	5,400	Tasco	1,000
Cable & Wireless	2,500	MEPC	210	Thorn EMI	416
Cablevision	1,600	Midland	555	Triglar House	600
Castle Wayne	488	Mit West	479	Trusthouse Port	600
Com Union	1,500	P & O Ltd	414	Unigate	67
Com Goldfields	854	Plesion	776	Unicorp	57
Compton	1,000	Plesion Bms	50	Unidisc Int	50
Courtside	1,700	Ploway	413	Wellcome	2,700
Deep Corp	1,000	Prudential	312	Wiles Faber	1,910
Drone Op	7,200	Racal Elect	1,600	Whitbread 'A'	800
Electric Chain	57	Rank Org	524	Widener	1,000
Elcom	135	Rent Thry	821	See earlier page 22	

WALL STREET

The Dow Jones Industrial average, down as much as 17

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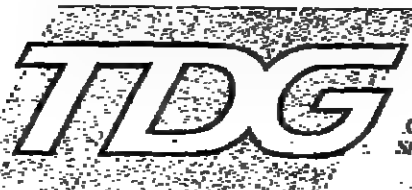
### CANADIAN PRICES

Chrysler Corp.	41	42%	Alcoa	30	32%
Cummins Inc.	61	60%	Michigan	49	51%
Danaher Corp.	27	28%	Minerals	48	48%
Delta Air Lines	29	28%	NR	NR	NR
Dynegy Inc.	27	28%	NR	NR	NR
Eastman Kodak	26	26%	NR	NR	NR
Emery Air Freight	16	16%	NR	NR	NR
General Electric	21	21%	NR	NR	NR
Greiner Inc.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Harvard Medical	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Imperial Oil	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Johnson & Johnson	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Kaiser Aluminum	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Kimberly-Clark	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Lincoln Financial	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Lockheed Martin	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Marathon Petroleum	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Medtronic Inc.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Merck & Co.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
MetLife Inc.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Motorola Inc.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Norfolk Southern	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Oracle Corp.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Pfizer Inc.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Procter & Gamble	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Raytheon Co.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Rockwell International	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Schlumberger	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Sealed Air Corp.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Shutterstock	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Southwest Airlines	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Union Pacific Corp.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Verizon Wireless	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Walmart Stores	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Wendy's International	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Weyerhaeuser	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Wynn Resorts	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Xerox Corp.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Yum! Brands Inc.	27	27%	NR	NR	NR
Zachry Group	27	27%	NR	NR	NR

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS Year to 31 December 1986

	1986 £m	1985 £m	% change
Turnover	543.2	481.5	+12.8%
Profit before tax	39.4	29.7	+32.7%
Earnings per share	17.2p	12.4p	+38.6%
Dividends per share	7.5p	6.2p	+21.0%
Return on capital employed	19.8%	16.1%	+23.0%

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## Weather hits building sales

were hit by January's severe weather, according to the latest survey from the Builders Merchants Federation. Nationally, sales for the month were 6 per cent down on January 1986. Nearly all regions indicated a drop, with East Anglia down 14.5 per cent.

**Job-related**

## Job-related incentives

## Foreign lift for cranes

The Far East is a growing market for British cranes, according to Davey Morris, the Loughborough manufacturer. Work has begun on a \$4 million contract for ship-to-shore cranes in Hong Kong. The 102-year-old company, which has a workforce of 550, and is now part of the Davy Corporation, is also working on a £2.75 million order for China.

**By Michael Tate**

and safety equipment group, which the Chamberlain board describes as "totally unacceptable."

The rejection document adds that "Wardle Storeys has nothing to contribute to the strength and value of the business. The bid has no industrial logic. It is merely a financial exercise designed to benefit the existing Wardle Storeys shareholders."

Mr David Chamberlain, the Chamberlain chairman, says that the company has maintained its strong market con-

## COMPANY NEWS

◆ **TYNE TEES TELEVISION HOLDINGS:** First quarter to December 1998 results showed a 10% increase in monthly revenue to £1.3m (vs. £1.2m in 1997). The company's 1998 dividend is 15p making 18.75p (13.125p). FY98 was in 2000s. Turnover 51,454 (40,529). Channel 4 subscription 8.52m (previously 8.2m). Profit before tax 1.2m (vs. 1.1m) (1,533,000) (1,233,000). EPS 51.35p (32.76p). The chairman welcomed the Government's decision to extend television franchises by three years and expressed optimism about the company's future.

◆ **GRAMPLAN HOLDINGS:** The company has sold the whole of its issued share capital of 100,000 shares to a new company owned by senior members of the Clachan management. None of the purchasers of the shares were directors of Clachan. Net assets of Clachan as at 31 December 1998 were £161,459. The consideration is £106,000.

- **BAKER PERKINS:** APV Holdings has received acceptance in respect of 17,144,000 Baker Perkins shares (60.9 per cent) and 290,515 preference (69.2 per cent) shares. All conditions of the ordinary offer other than that relating to the level of acceptances have now been fulfilled or waived.
- **BERISFORD:** Ferguson Industrial Holdings owns or has received acceptances in respect of a total of 4,846,071 Berisford ordinary shares (about 88.4 per cent). All other conditions of the offer to December 31, 1991, have been fulfilled or waived; the offer has been declared unconditional in all respects.
- **BOND CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL:** Nine million to December 31, 1991, due \$111.4 million (no commission), net less \$11.49 million.

**By Michael Tate**

Of the \$16 million Mirex purchase price, \$15 million will be paid in cash. The balance will be satisfied by the issue of 312,989 Erskine shares at \$15.00 per share.

The deal values Erskine House shares at 201.6p, and prompted a 12p rise in the market price to 213p yesterday.

## RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES		PRIVATIZATION	
Barbour Indx (212p)	345 +3	Prism Leisure (120p)	151
Bt Airways (31p)	134 +1	RCC (35p)	105
British Gas (105p)	188 +3	Rangers H Beauty (200p)	42 +3
Data Group (110p)	131 +1	Scandiana System (210p)	253 +2
Forward Gap (125p)	225	Shankar G S (90p)	102 +1
Gates (102p)	225	SSI Group (100p)	77 1/2 -
Glenares (110p)	46 +3	Virgin Group (140p)	175 1/2 +1
Gordon Russell (350p)	175 +3	Ward Group (87p)	22 +1
Hale Horne (55p)	90 -1	White Swan (130p)	140 -2
Hobson Pub (220p)	358 +10		
Horbury (100p)	105 -2	RIGHTS ISSUES	
JSS ELC (115p)	136 +1	Alabone M/P	17 -1
Johnson Fry (100p)	195 +1	Burness F/P	11 -1
Lloyds Chemicals (104p)	215	City Site 24 N/P	10 -1
Lon & Metro (145p)	215	Cannon S/P	580 +5
MIL (140p)	193 -2	Canikon S/P	226 +1
Mega PLC (100p)	131 +3	Widney F/P	10 -1
Maybarn (122p)	131 +3	Wiggins F/P	158 -2
Morab (155p)	200		
Northcote (100p)	148		

(Issue price in brackets).

## TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Final Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	Pay Settlement
Feb 2	Feb 13	Mar 27	Mar 28
Feb 16	Mar 27	Mar 29	Jun 8
Mar 2	Mar 13	Jun 11	Jun 22

Deal options were taken out on 10/3/87 Norfolk Corp., Norimits Group, Leing Properties, Blackstone Holdings, SBC, SBC America, Western Union, Cingular, Blackie Laumaie, Ryley Laumaie, Cintas Holdings, Cosalt, ASP, Barratt Dev, Pavon, Hyman, H Marshall, Rothmans, New, H Quirk, Laura Ashley, Foscon, Atlantic, Sangers, Morgan Grandall H & Sons, BCTC, British Sea, Widen, Rotaford, Advanced Technology, Property Trust, Ferrell, Mott, Laundex Sacs, Great Pottery, Papa Group, TSI Group, Virgin Group, Jovik-FR, Sacks, Wilmetts Sacs, Pate, London Sacs, Century Pam.

### THIRD MARKET

1998		Company	Price			Change
High	Low		Bid	Offer		
232	190	Abelsport Group	217	227	-6	
50	10	Aberdeen Am Petrol	32	35	+1	
120	112	Allied Insurance	107	117	n/c	
64	36	Catalyst Commercial	45	49	+1%	
68	24	Corbin Beach	63	68	+1	
43	10	Eginton Oil Ireland	38	40	-3	
31	0	Do. Warrants	19	21	-3	
24	17	Publishing Holdings	24	26	n/c	
55	48	Theme Holdings	51	54	+1	
133	117	Unit Group	114	120	-2	

## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Set Vol
Three Month Starting	Mar 17	90.20	92.30	90.20	30.24
Jun 17	90.78	90.91	90.74	90.75	282.28
Sep 17	91.00	90.94	90.91	90.92	24.41
Dec 17	90.58	90.56	90.56	90.58	287
Mar 98	90.84	90.84	90.78	90.78	17
Jun 98	NT	—	—	90.59	0
Sep 98	NT	—	—	90.58	0
Dec 98	NT	—	—	90.55	0
		Previous day's total open interest \$47.91			
Three Month Eurodollar	Mar 17	93.61	93.62	93.60	92.50
Jun 17	93.69	93.56	93.56	93.56	339.66
Sep 17	93.58	93.59	93.59	93.58	798
Dec 17	93.50	93.53	93.53	93.50	0
Mar 98	NT	—	—	93.57	0
Jun 98	NT	—	—	93.18	0
Sep 98	NT	—	—	92.98	0
Dec 98	92.78	92.78	92.78	92.78	17
		Previous day's total open interest \$74.91			
US Treasury Bond	101-28	101-28	101-18	101-15	214
Mar 97	101-27	101-19	101-08	101-08	1181
Jun 97	NT	—	—	99-46	0
Sep 97	NT	—	—	99-46	0
		Previous day's total open interest \$384			
Short GR	NT	—	—	108-33	0
Mar 97	NT	—	—	108-33	0
Jun 97	NT	—	—	108-33	0
Sep 97	NT	—	—	108-33	0
		Previous day's total open interest \$4			
Long GR	NT	—	—	122-17	0
Mar 97	122-17	122-18	122-12	122-17	508
Jun 97	122-40	122-40	122-32	122-32	101.94
Sep 97	NT	—	—	122-19	0
Dec 97	Mar 98	NT	—	122-28	0
		Previous day's total open interest \$200.00			
FT-SE 100	Mar 97	200.60	200.50	200.20	430
Jun 97	200.40	200.40	200.20	200.20	420
Sep 97	200.40	200.40	200.20	200.20	420
Dec 97	200.40	200.40	200.20	200.20	420

## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES			
Market rates day's rates		Market rates close	
March 16		March 16	
H York	1.5275-1.5300	1.5290-1.5300	1 month
London	1.5275-1.5300	1.5290-1.5300	0.58-0.59penn
Breitscheid	3.2141-3.2212	3.2171-3.2283	1.35-1.36penn
Antwerp	69.57-70.28	69.57-70.28	15-16penn
Frankfurt	10.357-10.3610	10.357-10.3610	30-32penn
Liège	1.0548-1.0552	1.0548-1.0552	35-42cils
Frankfurt	2.5865-2.5947	2.5895-2.5925	15-16penn
London	2.5875-2.5915	2.5875-2.5915	35-36penn
Milan	203.28-203.57	203.28-203.57	80-107cils
Madrid	203.61-207.57	203.61-207.57	20penn-24cils
Osaka	203.61-207.57	203.61-207.57	20penn-24cils
Paris	9.5252-9.5345	9.5252-9.5345	25-19penn
Stirling	10.7425-10.7785	10.7425-10.7785	15-19cils
Tokyo	238.25-239.15	238.25-239.15	35-40penn
Venezia	20.39-20.49	20.39-20.49	11-11½penn
Zurich	2.4234-2.4419	2.4232-2.4321	15-16penn

### OTHER STERLING RATES

"Egyptian cotton"	2,414.2-4,358	England	1,440.0-1,510.0
Algerian dollar	2,474.7-2,580	France	1,520.0-1,480.0
Bahrain dollar	0.960.0-0.990.0	Germany	2,920.0-2,950.0
Brazil cruzeiro	1,000.0-1,000.0	Greece	2,000.0-2,000.0
Cypriot pound	0.7830.0-0.7780	Italy	1,210.0-1,215.0
Dominican peso	7.7000.0-7.7000.0	Japan	2,430.0-2,437.0
Greek drachma	21,200.0-214.00	Denmark	2,430.0-2,437.0
Hong Kong dollar	11,260.0-12,513	Norway	2,430.0-2,437.0
Indian rupee	1.0000.0-1.0000.0	Switzerland	2,430.0-2,437.0
Kuwait dinar K.D.	0.4950.0-0.4390	United States	1,542.0-1,540.0
Lebanese pound	3.0000.0-3.0000.0	Sweden	1,540.0-1,540.0
Mexican peso	2.0000.0-1.980	France	6,180.0-6,180.0
New Israeli sheqel	1.0000.0-1.0000.0	Spain	151.00-151.00
Saudi Arabian riyal	5,000.0-5,000.0	West Germany	38.14-38.14
Singapore dollar	3,737.0-3,977.0	Belgium	36.00-36.00
Taiwan dollar	1,400.0-1,455.0	Canada	100.00-100.00
U.S. dollar (cont)	3,977.0-3,989.0	Portugal	141.70-142.00
U.S. dollar	3,975.0-3,875.0	Switzerland	158.00-158.00
"Lloyds Bank"		Australia	150.00-150.00

## MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Bean Renter % Clearing Barrels 10% Financial House 11 Discount Market Loans % Overnight High 11% Low 10% Week Round 10%  Treasury Bills (Discount %) 1 month 3 1/2%      3 month 3 1/2% 2 month 3 1/2%      6 month 3 1/2% Prime Bank Bill (Discount %) 1 month 3 1/2%      3 month 3 1/2%	<b>BULLION</b>  Gold (1000.00-1000.00) Kruggerand (per coin, ex vat) \$ 408.00-411.00 (2250.00-250.25) Sovereigns (ex vat) \$ 87.50-88.50 (42.25-42.25) Platinum \$ 171.50 (3252.25)  Silver (1000.00-1000.00) \$ 5,570.00-5,800.00 (32,525.00-3,545.00)
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## ECGD

Overnight (open 11% close 10%)	
1 month 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	6 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
3 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	12 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Local Authority Deposits (%)	
3 days 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	6 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
1 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	3 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
6 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	12 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Local Authority Bonds (%)	
1 month 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	3 month 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
3 month 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	6 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
9 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	12 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Sterling CDs (%)	
1 month 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	3 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
6 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	12 month 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> - 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Dollars CDs (%)	
3 month 6.50 - 6.55	6 month 6.40 - 6.45
6 month 6.30 - 6.35	12 month 6.20 - 6.25

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Investors show caution

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 9. Dealings end Friday. \$Contango day March 23. Settlement day March 30.  
\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks, volumes are on page 22

## Portfolio - Gold -

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DAILY DIVIDEND £4.000

Claims required for +42 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

## Portfolio - Gold -

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stand. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Waddington (J)	Paper, Print, Adv	
2	Bentley (as)	Paper, Print, Adv	
3	Boatland	Electricity	
4	Equinox Trust	Property	
5	Elam	Drugs, Stores	
6	Westland	Motor, Aircraft	
7	Zetters	Leisure	
8	Highland Elect	Electricity	
9	Transport Dev	Industrial, S-Z	
10	Moslem (John)	Building, Roads	
11	ML Hops	Industrial, L-R	
12	Invercaddell Dist	Breweries	
13	Black's Ltd	Drugs, Stores	
14	Spring Ram	Industrial, S-Z	
15	Sale Tillery	Industrial, S-Z	
16	Guthrie	Industrial, E-K	
17	Cookson (as)	Industrial, A-D	
18	Br Bick & Eng App	Industrial, A-D	
19	Deacons	Industrial, A-D	
20	Clydebank	Industrial, A-D	
21	Chemring	Industrial, A-D	
22	IBL	Electricity	
23	BSS Group	Industrial, A-D	
24	HTV N/V	Cinema, TV	
25	Meat Trade Supp	Food	
26	Smiths Ind	Industrial, S-Z	
27	Dawson	Textiles	
28	Brilliant Grp	Industrial, A-D	
29	Steeley	Industrial, S-Z	
30	Abbey	Building, Roads	
31	Hunting Group	Industrial, E-K	
32	Marshall (Lloyd)	Industrial, L-R	
33	Miller (Stanley)	Building, Roads	
34	Sand Cart (as)	Bank, Discount	
35	Macarthy	Industrial, L-R	
36	Ist Thomson	Newspapers	
37	Premier	Oil, Gas	
38	Bryson	Oil, Gas	
39	Gr Portland	Property	
40	Maybourn	Industrial, L-R	
41	Coats Vye (as)	Drugs, Stores	
42	TSL Group	Industrial, S-Z	
43	Jarvis (J) & Sons	Building, Roads	
44	Pressac	Electricity	
© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total			

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend  
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4.000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS	
High	Low

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	
High	Low

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS	
High	Low

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS	
High	Low

UNDATED	
High	Low

INDEX-LINKED	
High	Low

BANKS DISCOUNT HP	
High	Low

BASE LENDING RATE	
High	Low

BREWERIES	
High	Low

BUILDINGS AND ROADS	
High	Low

FINANCE AND LAND	
High	Low

FOODS	
High	Low

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS	
High	Low

CINEMAS AND TV	
High	Low

HOTELS AND CATERERS	
High	Low

INDUSTRIALS A-D	
High	Low

ELECTRICALS	
High	Low

INSURANCE	
High	Low

LEISURE	
High	Low

MINING	
High	Low

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT	
High	Low

SHIPPING	
High	Low

SHOES AND LEATHER	
High	Low

TEXTILES	
High	Low

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS	
High	Low

OIL & GAS	
High	Low

OVERSEAS TRADERS	
High	Low

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G	
High	Low

PROPERTY	
High	Low

TOBACCO	
High	Low

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High	Low

Continued on page 26



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1986										1986										1986									
Low	Category	Price	Offer	Change	Open	High	Low	Category	Price	Offer	Change	Open	High	Low	Category	Price	Offer	Change	Open	High									
100	ABC	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100	ABC	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100	ABC	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00									
101	DEF	101.00	101.00	0.00	101.00	101.00	101	DEF	101.00	101.00	0.00	101.00	101.00	101	DEF	101.00	101.00	0.00	101.00	101.00									
102	GHI	102.00	102.00	0.00	102.00	102.00	102	GHI	102.00	102.00	0.00	102.00	102.00	102	GHI	102.00	102.00	0.00	102.00	102.00									
103	JKL	103.00	103.00	0.00	103.00	103.00	103	JKL	103.00	103.00	0.00	103.00	103.00	103	JKL	103.00	103.00	0.00	103.00	103.00									
104	MNO	104.00	104.00	0.00	104.00	104.00	104	MNO	104.00	104.00	0.00	104.00	104.00	104	MNO	104.00	104.00	0.00	104.00	104.00									
105	PQR	105.00	105.00	0.00	105.00	105.00	105	PQR	105.00	105.00	0.00	105.00	105.00	105	PQR	105.00	105.00	0.00	105.00	105.00									
106	STU	106.00	106.00	0.00	106.00	106.00	106	STU	106.00	106.00	0.00	106.00	106.00	106	STU	106.00	106.00	0.00	106.00	106.00									
107	VWX	107.00	107.00	0.00	107.00	107.00	107	VWX	107.00	107.00	0.00	107.00	107.00	107	VWX	107.00	107.00	0.00	107.00	107.00									
108	YZA	108.00	108.00	0.00	108.00	108.00	108	YZA	108.00	108.00	0.00	108.00	108.00	108	YZA	108.00	108.00	0.00	108.00	108.00									
109	BCD	109.00	109.00	0.00	109.00	109.00	109	BCD	109.00	109.00	0.00	109.00	109.00	109	BCD	109.00	109.00	0.00	109.00	109.00									
110	EFG	110.00	110.00	0.00	110.00	110.00	110	EFG	110.00	110.00	0.00	110.00	110.00	110	EFG	110.00	110.00	0.00	110.00	110.00									
111	HIJ	111.00	111.00	0.00	111.00	111.00	111	HIJ	111.00	111.00	0.00	111.00	111.00	111	HIJ	111.00	111.00	0.00	111.00	111.00									
112	KLM	112.00	112.00	0.00	112.00	112.00	112	KLM	112.00	112.00	0.00	112.00	112.00	112	KLM	112.00	112.00	0.00	112.00	112.00									
113	NOP	113.00	113.00	0.00	113.00	113.00	113	NOP	113.00	113.00	0.00	113.00	113.00	113	NOP	113.00	113.00	0.00	113.00	113.00									
114	QRS	114.00	114.00	0.00	114.00	114.00	114	QRS	114.00	114.00	0.00	114.00	114.00	114	QRS	114.00	114.00	0.00	114.00	114.00									
115	TUV	115.00	115.00	0.00	115.00	115.00	115	TUV	115.00	115.00	0.00	115.00	115.00	115	TUV	115.00	115.00	0.00	115.00	115.00									
116	WXY	116.00	116.00	0.00	116.00	116.00	116	WXY	116.00	116.00	0.00	116.00	116.00	116	WXY	116.00	116.00	0.00	116.00	116.00									
117	ZAB	117.00	117.00	0.00	117.00	117.00	117	ZAB	117.00	117.00	0.00	117.00	117.00	117	ZAB	117.00	117.00	0.00	117.00	117.00									
118	CDE	118.00	118.00	0.00	118.00	118.00	118	CDE	118.00	118.00	0.00	118.00	118.00	118	CDE	118.00	118.00	0.00	118.00	118.00									
119	FGH	119.00	119.00	0.00	119.00	119.00	119	FGH	119.00	119.00	0.00	119.00	119.00	119	FGH	119.00	119.00	0.00	119.00	119.00									
120	HIJ	120.00	120.00	0.00	120.00	120.00	120	HIJ	120.00	120.00	0.00	120.00	120.00	120	HIJ	120.00	120.00	0.00	120.00	120.00									
121	KLM	121.00	121.00	0.00	121.00	121.00	121	KLM	121.00	121.00	0.00	121.00	121.00	121	KLM	121.00	121.00	0.00	121.00	121.00									
122	NOP	122.00	122.00	0.00	122.00	122.00	122	NOP	122.00	122.00	0.00	122.00	122.00	122	NOP	122.00	122.00	0.00	122.00	122.00									
123	QRS	123.00	123.00	0.00	123.00	123.00	123	QRS	123.00	123.00	0.00	123.00	123.00	123	QRS	123.00	123.00	0.00	123.00	123.00									
124	TUV	124.00	124.00	0.00	124.00	124.00	124	TUV	124.00	124.00	0.00	124.00	124.00	124	TUV	124.00	124.00	0.00	124.00	124.00									
125	WXY	125.00	125.00	0.00	125.00	125.00	125	WXY	125.00	125.00	0.00	125.00	125.00	125	WXY	125.00	125.00	0.00	125.00	125.00									
126	ZAB	126.00	126.00	0.00	126.00	126.00	126	ZAB	126.00	126.00	0.00	126.00	126.00	126	ZAB	126.00	126.00	0.00	126.00	126.00									
127	CDE	127.00	127.00	0.00	127.00	127.00	127	CDE	127.00	127.00	0.00	127.00	127.00	127	CDE	127.00	127.00	0.00	127.00	127.00									
128	FGH	128.00	128.00	0.00	128.00	128.00	128	FGH	128.00	128.00	0.00	128.00	128.00	128	FGH	128.00	128.00	0.00	128.00	128.00									
129	HIJ	129.00	129.00	0.00	129.00	129.00	129	HIJ	129.00	129.00	0.00	129.00	129.00	129	HIJ	129.00	129.00	0.00	129.00	129.00									
130	KLM	130.00	130.00	0.00	130.00	130.00	130	KLM	130.00	130.00	0.00	130.00	130.00	130	KLM	130.00	130.00	0.00	130.00	130.00									
131	NOP	131.00	131.00	0.00	131.00	131.00	131	NOP	131.00	131.00	0.00	131.00	131.00	131	NOP	131.00	131.00	0.00	131.00	131.00									
132	QRS	132.00	132.00	0.00	132.00	132.00	132	QRS	132.00	132.00	0.00	132.00	132.00	132	QRS	132.00	132.00	0.00	132.00	132.00									
133	TUV	133.00	133.00	0.00	133.00	133.00	133	TUV	133.00	133.00	0.00	133.00	133.00	133	TUV	133.00	133.00	0.00	133.00	133.00									
134	WXY	134.00	134.00	0.00	134.00	134.00	134	WXY	134.00	134.00	0.00	134.00	134.00	134	WXY	134.00	134.00	0.00	134.00	134.00									
135	ZAB	135.00	135.00	0.00	135.00	135.00	135	ZAB	135.00	135.00	0.00	135.00	135.00	135	ZAB	135.00	135.00	0.00	135.00	135.00									
136	CDE	136.00	136.00	0.00	136.00	136.00	136	CDE	136.00	136.00	0.00	136.00	136.00	136	CDE	136.00	136.00	0.00	136.00	136.00									
137	FGH	137.00	137.00	0.00	137.00	137.00	137	FGH	137.00	137.00	0.00	137.00	137.00	137	FGH	137.00	137.00	0.00	137.00	137.00									
138	HIJ	138.00	138.00	0.00	138.00	138.00	138	HIJ	138.00	138.00	0.00	138.00	138.00	138	HIJ	138.00	138.00	0.00	138.00	138.00									
139	KLM	139.00	139.00	0.00	139.00	139.00	139	KLM	139.00	139.00	0.00	139.00	139.00	139	KLM	139.00	139.00	0.00	139.00	139.00									
140	NOP	140.00	140.00	0.00	140.00	140.00	140	NOP	140.00	140.00	0.00	140.00	140.00	140	NOP	140.00	140.00	0.00	140.00	140.00									
141	QRS	141.00	141.00	0.00	141.00	141.00	141	QRS	141.00	141.00	0.00	141.00	141.00	141	QRS	141.00	141.00	0.00	141.00	141.00									
142	TUV	142.00	142.00	0.00	142.00	142.00	142	TUV	142.00	142.00	0.00	142.00	142.00	142	TUV	142.00	142.00	0.00	142.00	142.00									
143	WXY	143.00	143.00	0.00	143.00	143.00	143	WXY	143.00	143.00	0.00	143.00	143.00	143	WXY	143.00	143.00	0.00	143.00	143.00									
144	ZAB	144.00	144.00	0.00	144.00	144.00	144	ZAB	144.00	144.00	0.00	144.00	144.00	144	ZAB	144.00	144.00	0.00	144.00	144.00									
145	CDE	145.00	145.00	0.00	145.00	145.00	145	CDE	145.00	145.00	0.00	145.00	145.00	145	CDE	145.00	145.00	0.00	145.00	145.00									
146	FGH	146.00	146.00	0.00	146.00	146.00	146	FGH	146.00	146.00	0.00	146.00	146.00	146	FGH	146.00	146.00	0.00	146.00	146.00									
147	HIJ	147.00	147.00	0.00	147.00	147.00	147	HIJ	147.00	147.00	0.00	147.00	147.00	147	HIJ	147.00	147.00	0.00	147.00	147.00									
148	KLM	148.00	148.00	0.00	148.00	148.00	148	KLM	148.00	148.00	0.00	148.00	148.00	148	KLM	148.00	148.00	0.00	148.00	148.00									
149	NOP	149.00	149.00	0.00	149.00	149.00	149	NOP	149.00	149.00	0.00	149.00	149.00	149	NOP	149.00	149.00	0.00	149.00	149.00									
150	QRS	150.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	150.00	150	QRS	150.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	150.00	150	QRS	150.00	150.00	0.00	150.00	150.00									
151	TUV	151.00	151.00	0.00	151.00	151.00	151	TUV	151.00	151.00	0.00	151.00	151.00	151	TUV	151.00	151.00	0.00	151.00	151.00									
152	WXY	152.00	152.00	0.00	152.00	152.00	152	WXY	152.00	152.00	0.00	152.00	152.00	152	WXY	152.00	152.00	0.00	152.00	152.00									
153	ZAB	153.00	153.00	0.00	153.00	153.00	153	ZAB	153.00	153.00	0.00	153.00	153.00	153	ZAB	153.00	153.00	0.00	153.00	153.00									
154	CDE	154.00	154.00	0.00	154.00	154.00	154	CDE	154.00	154.00	0.00	154.00	154.00	154	CDE	154.00	154.00	0.00	154.00	154.00									
155	FGH	155.00	155.00	0.00	155.00	155.00	155	FGH	155.00	155.00	0.00	155.00	155.00	155	FGH	155.00	155.00	0.00	155.00	155.00									
156	HIJ	156.00	156.00	0.00	156.00	156.00	156	HIJ	156.00	156.00	0.00	156.00	156.00	156	HIJ	156.00	156.00	0.00	156.00	156.00									
157	KLM	157.00	157.00	0.00	157.00	157.00	157	KLM	157.00	157.00	0.00	157.00	157.00	157	KLM	157.00	157.00	0.00	157.00	157.00									
158	NOP	158.00	158.00	0.00	158.00	158.00	158	NOP	158.00	158.00	0.00	158.00	158.00	158	NOP	158.00	158.00	0.00	158.00	158.00									
159	QRS	159.00	159.00	0.00	159.0																								

# INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1986	High	Low	Company	Pct	Offer	Chgs	Vol	P/E
17	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
18	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
19	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
20	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
21	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
22	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
23	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
24	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
25	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
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27	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
28	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
29	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
30	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
31	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
32	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
33	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
34	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
35	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
36	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
37	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
38	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
39	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
40	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
41	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
42	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
43	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
44	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
45	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
46	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
47	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
48	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
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69	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
70	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
71	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
72	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
73	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
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86	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
87	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
88	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
89	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
90	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
91	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
92	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
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97	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
98	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
99	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
100	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2

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26	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
27	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
28	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
29	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
30	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
31	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
32	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
33	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
34	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
35	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
36	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
37	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
38	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
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40	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
41	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
42	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
43	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
44	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
45	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
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48	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
49	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
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63	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
64	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
65	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
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70	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
71	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
72	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
73	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
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75	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
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77	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
78	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
79	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
80	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
81	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
82	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
83	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
84	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
85	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
86	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
87	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0	0	37.2
88	42.00	42.00	Adia	100	42.00	0		



APPOINTMENTS

Initial: Mr John Johnston joins the board as group finance director.  
Molyneux Rose: Mr Alan Molyneux and Mr Michael Rose become associate directors.  
Shadow UK: Mr David Johnson joins the board.  
Diamond Leisure: Mr JF Osborne becomes managing director.  
Oils UK Group: Mr Brian King has been appointed managing director, and chairman of the board of Oils Elevator.  
Volant: Mr Frank Pegg becomes vice-chairman. Mr Hugh Mathew is made managing director.  
Frame Clothing: Mr Tom McCallum becomes production director.  
Mr George Campbell sales director and Miss Claire Rael-Brook design director.  
Carless Petroleum: Mr Brian Kidd joins the board from April 1.  
Multitone Electronics: Mr Ian Barrage is to succeed Mr John Spiers as managing director.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Call	Put	Call	Put	Call	Put	Call	Put
Series	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Alfred Lyons (391)	350	60	70	80	90	100	110
British Gas (81)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
British Airways (124)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
BP (810)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Com Gold (838)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Cornmeal (391)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Com Union (322)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Cable & Wire (361)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
GE (210)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Grand Met (485)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
ICI (128)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Land Securities (388)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Morris & Sons (229)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Shell Trans (1213)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Trafalgar House (391)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
TSE (75)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Woodworth (818)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Bechtel (548)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Boots (387)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
BTR (338)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Base (1945)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Blue Circle (743)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
De Beers (1068)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Dime (377)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
GNK (327)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70
Glass (1509)	100	20	30	40	50	60	70

Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

# IBM's tough new style for Europe

## THE WEEK

By Matthew May

Two and a half years ago IBM bought Rolm, an American telecommunications firm.

At that time there were strong assurances that Rolm's independence was assured. IBM's vice-chairman Paul Rizzo, said: "Your company will be managed as a separate organization with its own character and its own culture."

Last week all that changed as IBM swallowed Rolm's sales and service organization — about 60 per cent of the company — into IBM's own marketing force.

The move is a further example of the widespread shake-up going on inside IBM that no longer has time for such niceties as independence.

There is little room left for the maverick as all hands are called to the pump to try to stop the slump in profits, down 27 per cent in 1986.

Particular attention is being paid internally to both IBM's sales and service organizations, with the focus more on selling to specific industries than pushing particular product lines.

More mundanely British IBMers report considerable belt-tightening with second-class cheap day returns on British Rail in force for staff accustomed to somewhat grander travel.

As internal reorganization takes its toll with resources being transferred into sales and customer support, IBM is again said by those inside the company to stand for I've Been Moved.

What IBM is still holding on to, however, is a strong desire to avoid compulsory redundancies.

IBM in Europe has fared better than other parts of the company but as IBM deputy president in Europe, Michael Armstrong, told the *Wall Street Journal* last week: "Our results around the world were unacceptable to us and that includes Europe."

His boss, Kaspar Cassani, head of IBM Europe, was in London last week to talk to the American Chamber of Commerce on whether Europe can compete.

Attitudes to business and profit, especially among our young people, are much more positive than say five years ago," he said in a speech that praised government deregulation of telecommunications but also pointed to US cuts in

These one megabit chips can each store more than a million bits of information and are expected to make an appearance in IBM's new range of personal computers next month.

corporate tax rates as a challenge to Europe.

More government help is needed in education, said Mr Cassani. "Corporate America spends proportionately three times more than corporate Britain," he said, "but we look primarily to government to provide Europe's trained base of human resources."

Only when referring to allegations of Japanese dumping in Europe did the full irony of a US multinational's representative preaching on European competitiveness become clearly apparent.

The message was that while IBM in Europe should be seen as European, the Japanese are foreigners.

In the short term the attention of industry watchers is now fixed on IBM's expected announcement in April of a



# Britain cashes in on CAD

By Richard Sarson

The West Germans seem to like British computer-aided design software. Last month, Siemens agreed to buy a minimum of 280 circuit-board design systems from Rascal-Redac.

Siemens will convert this software on to their own workstations, then sell it. What clinched the sale was Rascal-Redac's reputation for high-quality, computer-aided electronic design and engineering tools helped by the fact that it used the European-standard operating system Unix, which Siemens has adopted for technical computing.

It also helped that Rascal-Redac have already sold 1,000 circuit-board design systems in Germany, giving them a 40 per cent market share, 200 of them to Siemens.

Because CAD software is an area in which the British have a general lead over the Continentals, the Department of Trade and Industry is sponsoring a travelling roadshow, through Switzerland, Austria and south Germany starting in Berlin next week with its last stop in Stuttgart on June 5 to coincide with CAT '87, one of Germany's main CAD exhibitions.

Seventeen hardware and software firms, including Ferranti, Rascal-Redac, Moss Systems and CIS of Cambridge, offer graphic systems as diverse as ground modelling for earth-moving contractors to chip design.

There will be three trucks, containing a mixture of mini and micro hardware — mostly American — running British software. The DTI also intends to sponsor a more permanent display centre for British information technology companies in Stuttgart.

Several small CAD firms have made West Germany their main export market and are well-established. One software house, Superdraft from Altrincham in Cheshire, is selling micro-based CAD software to the mechanical engineering industry and exports half of its production to Germany.

# Call for tax boost to R & D

The Government could stimulate the creation of a quarter of a million jobs by introducing a tax-credit scheme for companies that invest in research and development (R & D).

So says the Electronic Engineering Association which has done its sums on a proposed tax-allowance scheme involving a 150 per cent tax allowance on all private R & D expenditure.

Its president, Tony Thatcher, argues that because such schemes have worked in other countries, the proposal could increase the level of industrial R & D in the UK by 37 per cent over the next three years.

Though the annual loss to the Government in taxes would be £600 million, the association says it has calculated the pay-back time, based on precedent, would be 3.7 years — no more than is normally expected for industrial investment. More importantly, perhaps, Mr

Thatcher claims that profits and sales would increase at a rate of 13 per cent a year, that 100,000 jobs would be created in manufacturing industry and that the supporting services industries could generate about a quarter of a million jobs.

The association bases its 150 per cent allowance scheme on the situation in

## TAX CREDITS

By Peter Sands

Australia, but says that similar favourable tax situations exist in the United States, France and Sweden.

In the run-up to today's Budget, it has been trying hard to convince the Cabinet that the tax-credit option is better than options such as overall lowering of corporate taxes.

Mr Thatcher says that the tax environment for industrial investment in

R & D in the UK is so bad that several of his members have been instructed by their multinational parents to close down R & D operations so they could be moved abroad.

He worries that where R & D goes, product prototyping, full production and the jobs that go with it, could soon follow. In terms of gross domestic product (GDP), Britain's performance in industrial investment is poorer than in its main international competitors. Within the overall spend, which has been falling since 1981, defence-oriented investment is rising. So the picture is seen as even worse for civil R & D.

It is the manufacturing industry which is seen as most at risk. The short-term view of city financial institutions, says Mr Thatcher, discourages investment in production and process technology, because it looks bad on the balance sheet, at least to the shareholders.

# Ada puts strain on training sector

Last week's Computer Recruitment Fair in London put 1,600 jobs from 30 companies on show to about 3,000 prospective employees. It followed a number of similar regional fairs held throughout the country.

A recent fair in Manchester, say organizers, resulted in applications for 95 per cent of the 1,200 jobs on offer.

The London fair came at an opportune time, given the growth of demand in certain specialist sectors of the market, such as Ada, the programming language recently chosen as the standard programming system by the Ministry of Defence.

In fact, the June deadline set by the MoD for its contracted programming firms to convert to all Ada output has put a tremendous demand on this area. According to Ian Pirie, general manager of Yard Software Systems — a company which has just been presented with a British Design Award for the Lifespan product it

## RECRUITMENT

By Geoff Wheelwright

sells to the defence sector — the demand for good Ada programmers is already putting a strain on the country's training and recruitment resources.

"Training is one of the big problems," he said. "There are just not enough people who are experienced in structured programming to cope with the challenging environment."

The other problem is in identifying exactly whom is going to make the investment in Ada training; but anyone who wants to do business with the MoD is going to have to take the plunge at some point.

Mr Pirie says: "There is a great risk in using Ada on a new project — the question is who will pay for that risk. An individual project manager may not pay a premium to comply with this policy — Ada will take longer and cost more — and not just 10 per cent more."

Part of the risk involves the way in which the MoD commissions work, which is often at a fixed price. And it is not at all clear that it plans to pay any more for work that conforms to the Ada requirement. Some contracts may well take a little longer for the work to be carried out as the companies serving the defence market get to grips with Ada.



## 1986 AUDITED RESULTS

BSR INTERNATIONAL PLC AND SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

	1986 £million	1985 £million
Turnover	346.0	261.8
Operating profit	15.0	(0.1)
Net interest payable	(4.5)	(5.6)
Profit after interest	10.5	(5.7)
Share of profit in related companies	1.2	(1.7)
Profit before taxation	11.7	(7.4)
Taxation	(1.2)	(0.4)
Profit after taxation	10.5	(7.8)
Minority interests	-	1.4
Earnings	10.5	(6.4)
Extraordinary items	(0.3)	(3.0)
Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders	10.2	(9.4)
Dividends paid and proposed	(4.5)	(4.0)
Retained profit	5.7	(13.4)
Earnings per 10p share	6.32p	(3.90p)
Dividends paid and proposed per 10p share	2.7p	2.4p

Note: The above audited financial information does not represent full financial statements within the meaning of section 239 of the Companies Act, 1985. An unqualified auditors' report will be given on the 1986 financial statements.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT:

"Nineteen eighty six saw a substantial improvement in the electronics industry world-wide and our company benefited from the upturn. In my interim statement in August, 1986, I was pleased to announce a return to profitability. The remainder of 1986 has seen the forecast increased demand for the Group's expanded product range and orders already received suggest this trend will continue throughout 1987."

During 1986 considerable personal energy and effort was expended by your Directors and executives to conclude the rationalisation programme started in 1984, in order to enable the Group to further develop its mainstream business and to pursue other areas of opportunity."

W.R.A. WYLLIE  
CHAIRMAN

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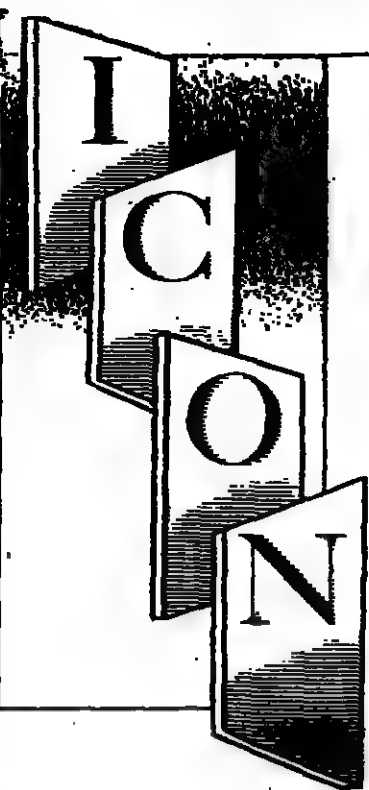
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COMPUTER HORIZONS/2

# Network management the key

## JOBSCENE

By Eddie Coulter

It used to be a case of where IBM leads, others follow. That may have been partly true, but in the case of Digital Equipment it has been more a case of strategically staying in the middle with the right products and letting the growth around you push you to dizzy heights.

And where a computer manufacturer grows, so must the need for computer staff familiar with the equipment.

Ken Swarbrick, executive director of the Hoskyns Group, the systems, software house and consultancy that is the UK's largest DEC distributor, says: "DEC is growing rapidly and moving faster ahead than IBM."

"But put it in context. Of our graduate intake being trained in technical and programming skills, the ratio is still two to one in favour of IBM. There is no distinction between the type of skills — such as programmers and analysts — but the mix is different."

"With IBM work, more systems programmers and database people are needed, while in the DEC environment more applications systems people are required."

That is not to say that database specialist people are



The VAXstation 2000 from DEC, a company whose fast growth has resulted in a shortage of specialists

not needed. Because of DEC's strengths in networks distributed, databases are increasing. Network management is an important skill in the DEC environment.

Typically, consultants in this area, earning from £20,000 a year upwards, need to be strong on programming, have the ability to size a computer against a given amount of work and must understand operations, databases and, of course, teleprocessing software.

DEC itself agrees that there is an increasing need for people who can manage networks.

ager, but who concentrates on higher-level technical involvement, often with customers, rather than on people management.

The pay, however, is the same for both management and contributor levels, typically from £25,000 a year plus a car and benefits package.

Mr Whitfield says: "Some of these high-level skills — such as software people with, say, financial specialization — are not readily available in DEC due to volume of growth and the newness of many applications."

The same applies with consultants within the Hoskyns Group. Mr Swarbrick comments: "Forty per cent of a consultant's time is spent understanding the users' business and dealing directly with end users. The processing power of DEC systems is growing 30 per cent a year in terms of cost-benefits."

"It means that users' applications which were not viable a few years ago are now becoming cost-effective. This is coupled with the higher productivity and strong interest in fourth-generation languages."

In any job market, it is always worth noting what manufacturers and consultants are doing. The staff skills they concentrate on today may well be those needed by the users tomorrow.

## How to spot and stop thieves

### FRAUD

By Matthew May

Managers should carry out a thorough review of the threats from computer fraud, the Institute of Chartered Accountants has warned.

Last week it published a booklet describing measures to counter the risks.

"Computer frauds are often perpetrated by employees in supervisory positions" it says and points to what it describes as the many situations in which there is collusion between someone responsible for input to a computer system and someone in charge of a physical asset.

The biggest category of reported computer fraud is put down to inadequate control over the input of transaction data — "particularly when terminals are in remote locations". Dummy invoices or claims documents are often involved.

Computer fraud is a "potentially serious threat for most organizations using computer systems" says the ICA and recommends checking employees references scrupulously and dividing computer responsibilities between several staff.

Culprits even where caught are frequently not prosecuted to avoid public embarrassment for the firm concerned but, says the booklet, "wherever possible take legal proceedings against and dismiss anyone found committing fraud."

"Do not under any circumstances provide good references."

Countering Computer Fraud costs £4.95 and is published by Charac Books at 399 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 2HL.

## Is Russia really so low tech?

The popular belief that computing in the Eastern Bloc is years behind the West is a gross exaggeration, according to a Finnish computer consultant, Heikki Auvionen who has studied Soviet high technology for years. He has made more than 200 visits to the Soviet Union, assessing high-technology marketing opportunities.

He said: "In 1981, when I was with Data General in Finland preparing to sell their products in the Soviet Union, the CoCom embargo was imposed. There was no opportunity to market western computer products in the Soviet Union after that."

But the answer was simple and, he argues, amounts to a contradiction of the American view that the Soviet Union is a technology desert, five to 10 years behind the West in all forms of advanced technology.

Mr Auvionen gathered together a number of companies and they started to import and work with Soviet computers in Finland.

"With the problems of getting western approval for shipments to the USSR," he said, "it was much more practical to build large-scale systems based on Soviet technology."

From this practical experience, Mr Auvionen has developed a report which, he says, gives a complete rundown on Soviet technology. The main surprises are the claims about the size of the Soviet supercomputer industry.

At the moment, 165 supercomputer installations in the West, mostly of the Cray type. The Soviet Union, says Mr Auvionen, has about 250 such installations, based on two largely compatible lines called the Besm and Elbrus.

The Besm machine came into use in 1963, not long after Seymour Cray introduced his range of Control Data

Corporation in the US. However, based on Mr Auvionen's estimates of a total BESM population of 200, the Soviet Union understood the importance of large-scale scientific computing before the West did, and began deployment accordingly.

The Besm, like its western counterpart, the Cray 1, continues in production but has been superseded by the multiprocessor Elbrus range, of which fewer than 50 have been installed. And Mr Auvionen adds words of caution. "When talking about western supercomputers and Soviet ones you are not comparing like technology with like technology."

The Soviet Union, in supercomputing as well as in all its other computer ranges, has developed along independent and often radically different lines from the West.

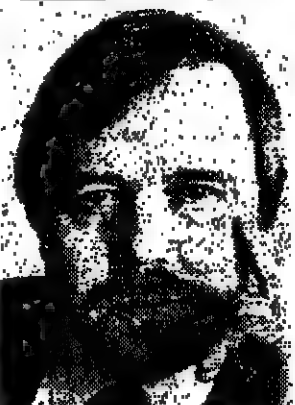
### EASTERN BLOC

By Kevin Cahill

"Information technology strongly reflects the environment, the society in which it grows," he says. "When people in the West talk of how far behind the Soviet Union is in technology, they compare centimetres and grams." Mr Auvionen admits, however, that much of Soviet mass-produced IT technology is not very good. "But it can be tuned and then it performs well."

This applies particularly to the Soviet equivalent of the two most popular western mini-computers, the VAX and PDP 11.

Emphasizing equivalent as opposed to like, Mr Auvionen says the Soviet Union has a wide range of computers available for its internal trade. These include two different VAX equivalents and a significant variety of ma-



Auvionen: complete rundown chimes which have DEC and IBM compatible operating systems.

But what is missing in the Soviet Union is the service industry. "There are no yellow pages," he notes wryly. "The Soviet system is very different from the West. The system lacks personal incentives."

On the other hand he detects a great keenness on the part of the Soviet IT industry to develop western input-output standards. Mr Auvionen claims too that Soviet basic software technology and research can sometimes be more advanced than in the West.

What Mr Auvionen sees as the predominant western advantage is the speed and skill with which western companies package and merchandize information technology. Which brings him to his own great hopes for Gorbachev's *glasnost*, or openness, programme.

"What Gorbachev needs from the West is the starting-in-a-garage philosophy that gave rise to so many western computer developments, including such firms as Apple and DEC."

Mr Auvionen believes that if the Gorbachev programme succeeds, the combination of Soviet scientific expertise, combined with western merchandizing could finally make the Soviet Union an international player in information technology.

The writer is author of Trade Wars and a research assistant at the House of Lords

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  - Electronic Printing and Publishing & Info 87, Olympia, London, March 24-27 (01-547 1001)
  - The Scottish Computer Show, March 31-April 2, Scottish Exhibition Centre, Glasgow (01-891 5051)
  - Automated Manufacturing Exhibition, May 12-15, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, (01-891 5051)
  - Computer North, May 27-29, G-Mex Exhibition Centre, Manchester, (01-891 5051)
  - What Communications, May 31-June 2, Novotel, Hammersmith, London, (01-262 3582)
  - Amstrad Computer Show, July 10-12, Alexandra Palace, London, (061-456 8835)

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Please telephone Brighton (0273) 29801 Ext. 466 for further details and an application form to be returned to the Borough Treasurer, P.O. Box 4, Town Hall, Brighton BN1 1JR. For an informal discussion about the post please telephone Mr J. Oliver, Principal Assistant Treasurer, on Ext. 517.

## HORIZONS

A guide to working  
for the community

## The other road to Westminster

Throughout Britain,  
people who feel they  
have something to say  
about the running of  
their local communities  
are gearing up to become  
councillors. Bob Smyth  
asks: Is this the time for  
you to come to the aid of  
the party and people?

While thousands of political party candidates fight for the 11,500 district council seats this May, the response of the voters on election day is likely to demonstrate apathy about civic affairs. Yet councillors are powerful people, spending £35 billion each year — a quarter of all public expenditure — and controlling more than two million staff.

Those occupying our council chambers number fewer than 25,000, representing 56 counties (or Scottish regions) and almost 500 districts. It sounds a lot, but is proportionally far less than in other European countries. British councillors, on average, represent a constituency of 1,800, whereas their Continental colleagues have constituencies averaging 500.

While this means that our elected representatives have more power (a crude calculation shows, for example, they each spend £1.4 million a year, or £5.6 million during their four years in office), it also produces a far heavier workload.

The management system which incoming councillors will face is, in traditional local government fashion, extensive and peculiar. Lady Porter, leader of Westminster City Council for the past four years, recalls that when elected 12 years ago, her reaction to city hall life was "utter astonishment. It was an extraordinary world. It took me years to recover. I'd come from a business background where the people involved decided what they wanted to do and then did it. In local government things don't happen like that."

All councils are entitled to choose their own procedures and, despite underlying similarities, local arrangements vary. Most councils have main service committees such as housing, social services and planning, with a policy committee made up of the leader and the committee chairman. Behind this there is often a political "shadow" structure which takes the real decisions, which are then implemented by the public committee meetings.

Despite the strength of inherited procedures, the determined newcomer can make a mark. As Lady Porter recalls: "I was quite quickly made a junior whip,



Lady Porter: An extraordinary world probably because I looked like being a troublemaker and that's the usual way to noble them."

Nicholas Taylor, an architectural historian, journalist, broadcaster and housing association development worker, judges that in the 16 years he has been a member of Lewisham Council "the quality of councillors has improved enormously. Our old leader used to say he didn't know what his officers spent their time doing. Today, partly because some members are officers in other authorities, councillors understand the complexities of council operations very much better."

## Far more meetings due to decentralization

Mr Taylor is one of many who have found civic life to be endlessly fascinating. "It's a fantastic learning process. It has been 15 years of prolonged self-education — a personal correspondence course through what we learn from agendas across an amazing range of activities."

The negative side he reports as being "the massive increase in the time you have to put into the job. The decentralization of services, for instance, has resulted in phenomenally more meetings."

The amount of time I spent on council business had an effect, though not a decisive one, on my first marriage. I have to make considerable efforts not to place intolerable strains on my second. It's very clear that because of such stresses many councillors do not stand for a second term of office."

Despite their political differences, Lady Porter echoes his views. "The ball game has changed in recent years. There's more to do, it's become more

political and there's more handed down to us by central government, quite apart from what we've inherited from the GLC. The public, too, expect more of you, which adds more and more time to what you have to give to the job."

From her eighteenth floor office, looking down on the cluster of government ministries — the Home Office, Environment and Industry and Trade departments, as well as Parliament itself — Lady Porter reflects on her reputation as someone who is challenging (or sabotaging, depending on your point of view) the conventions of local government practice.

There's always a tendency to keep things as they are, and if you're happy with that you can be very popular. But if you want to make things change — by linking your staff's pay to performance, introducing targets and aiming at better productivity, for instance — then you have to make the town hall a lot more like the real world."

She envisages an eventual change to full-time councillors — "and highly paid, or why should they stop a promising career? The disadvantage is that it might produce councillors with a narrow view of things, because you need the outside influence, but I acknowledge we will probably have the American-style executive mayor."

As for being a woman in what is a male-dominated world, she says: "I haven't found it a disadvantage. In fact I think it's a very good job for women because women are more practical."

The present payments for councillors are hardly generous, despite accounts of the impressive expenses of certain northern councillors. Members receive up to £16 or so as an attendance allowance for meetings. A full-time leader, or busy committee chairman, can collect up to £4,435 special responsibility allowance, but since only £10,000 is available in total for sharing out between all senior members of a district such as a London borough, the number of full-timers is restricted.

One benefit in kind from experience gained as a councillor is the prospect of moving on to a parliamentary career. At least 240 of the 650 MPs are former councillors. Of these, 120 are in the government ranks and 20 are ministers, including Michael Jopling (formerly a Thirsk councillor), Malcolm Rifkind (Edinburgh) and Kenneth Baker (Twickenham).

A final tip for those who fancy their chances in the political lottery: choose your local council carefully if you are after a ticket to Parliament. Outside London, only Coventry is in the league of authorities with five or more former councillors now sitting as MPs.

Kensington and Chelsea also boasts five MPs and Camden seven, but at the top of the list, perhaps appropriately, is the City of Westminster itself, with 10 of its alumni having marched across Parliament Square into the Palace of Westminster. For those who are tempted, the closing date for nominations is April 7.

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Development  
Officer

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This is a new and challenging post in which the personality of the successful candidate will be all important as well as experience of the workings of the voluntary and statutory sector. Initiative, organisational and administrative skills, as well as the ability to motivate others, are essential. Although based in NW2 considerable travel within the U.K. may be required, for which a transport allowance would be provided.

Salary negotiable depending on age, qualifications and experience. For further details and application form, send a large stamped addressed envelope to:

The General Secretary  
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276 Willesden Lane  
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**Lincolnshire**  
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Application forms are obtainable from the County Secretary, County Hall, Bedford RM42 8AP (telephone - Bedford (0234) 228311).

Closing Date: Monday, 13th April, 1987.

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Application forms quoting appropriate reference number are available from:

The Personnel Division,  
Civic Centre, Uxbridge,  
Middlesex, UB8 3PH  
Telephone Uxbridge  
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Closing date 24th March 1987.

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The Falkland Islands although small, with a population of around 2,000, is nevertheless a thriving community and the natural potential and economy of the islands is rapidly developing.

The upkeep of roads between communities and public utilities has an important part to play in the islands' future and currently a Director of Public Works is required.

In this high profile role you will have full control of the Public Works Department and your remit will include road construction and maintenance, water supplies, sewerage construction and repair of buildings, electrical generation and power, together with general management of a large plant and motor vehicle workshop. In addition to organising and supervising the work of the department you will also be responsible for accounting for expenditure on works budget and revenue from the electricity utility. Experience in quarrying and the use of explosives would be an advantage.

To be successful you should be an outgoing Chartered Municipal or Civil Engineer with a successful track record in a Public Works Department which will have given you a wide range of experience, cost-management abilities and the drive and ambition essential in this challenging environment.

The appointment is on contract to the Government of the Falkland Islands for a period of 2 or 3 years. Local salary is in the range £12,648-£13,416 p.a. plus a tax free supplement, payable by the Government, in the range £13,104 to £15,300 p.a. A tax-free grant of 20% of local salary is also payable. Other benefits normally include free passage, children's education allowances and subsidised accommodation.

For an application form, please write, quoting ref. FJ369/DM/TT, stating post code, to: Appointments Officer, Overseas Development Administration, Room 351, Abercrombie House, Eaglestone Road, EAST KILBRIDE, Glasgow G75 5EA, Gt. telephone 0352 41199, ext. 3571.

ODA DEVELOPMENT Britain helping nations to help themselves

## UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH DEPARTMENT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

### LECTURESHIP IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

(INTELLIGENT ROBOTICS)

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Artificial Intelligence, specializing in Intelligent Robotics, to be held in the Department of Artificial Intelligence, University of Edinburgh. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching and supervision of students, and for the research programme in the field of intelligent robotics. The post is for a period of 3 years, with the possibility of extension.

Applicants should have a PhD in Artificial Intelligence or a related field, and should have a strong research background in the field of intelligent robotics. They should also have a good knowledge of the English language and be able to communicate effectively.

For an application form, please write to: The Department of Artificial Intelligence, University of Edinburgh, George Square, Edinburgh EH8 9JY.

## RHONDDA BOROUGH COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICERS

(3 posts) - E5, E6, and E9 Salary Grade: £8,1 - £10,580 - £11,271 plus essential users car allowance and telephone allowance.

Applicants must possess a Degree in Environmental Health or the Diploma of the Environmental Health Officers Education Board.

These positions should be particularly attractive to newly qualified Environmental Health Officers as they have an opportunity to carry out the full range of Environmental Health duties in a progressive Authority.

The Rhondda Valley provides an increasingly ruralised and attractive environment in which to live and work - within easy reach of Cardiff City Centre, the Gower Peninsula and the Brecon Beacons National Park. Housing prices are extremely competitive.

The Council has a generous relocation scheme offering assistance towards removal expenses. The Authority is an equal opportunities employer.

If you feel that challenging positions would be of interest, please apply by obtaining an application form from the Personnel Officer, Municipal Offices, Penarth, Rhondda, CF41 7BT.

(Telephone: Tynyddy 484351, Ext.257), to whom completed forms must be returned.

The appointment is subject to the National Scheme of Conditions of Service 100-EH/379

## BLOOMSBURY HEALTH AUTHORITY UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL

### Health Adviser (GAA Grade)

SALARY: £7757-£9763 inclusive.

Applications are invited for the post of Health Adviser in the Department of Genito-Urinary Medicine, which is responsible for the management of sexually transmitted infections including those due to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (AIDS Virus). The successful applicant will be accountable to the Consultants in charge of the Department, and duties will include contact tracing, counselling and health education.

The work demands a mature personality and the ability to establish rapport with a wide variety of patients. Previous experience in this field is not essential, but a qualification and practical knowledge of nursing or social science is required.

For an application form and a job description, please contact the Personnel Department, University College Hospital, Gower Street, LONDON WC1 or telephone 01-380-9699 (24 hour answering machine). Please quote reference number AS 65.

Closing Date: 27th March 1987.

WORKING TOWARDS EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

## LONDON & QUADRANT HOUSING TRUST

### WELFARE OFFICER

The Trust lets improved new homes to people in housing need in multi-cultural, multi-racial areas of the inner city.

A vacancy has arisen for a Welfare Officer in the Trust's North London Area team, based at Alexandra Court, 122-124 High Road, Wood Green, N22.

The Area team manages properties in the London Boroughs of Haringey and Hackney as well as an estate in Leicester.

The person appointed is likely to have 3 to 5 years experience in Housing Welfare or Social Work.

The duties include: Ensuring that all tenants in need are given adequate advice and assistance on benefits, both materially and financially, with particular emphasis on the elderly and disabled. Developing links with voluntary and statutory bodies, visiting prospective tenants in their homes and conducting interviews and leasing with other members of the Area Team on welfare matters.

Excellent conditions of employment include: Pension Scheme with non-contributory Life and Health Insurance, Lunch Vouchers 75p per day, 5 day 36 hour week, four weeks holiday per year.

Salary up to £9,208 per annum, according to qualifications and experience, plus a London Weighting Allowance of £736 per annum, a car and mileage allowance is payable.

Applications in writing to: Philip Stevens, Personnel Manager, London & Quadrant Housing Trust, Osborn House, Osborn Terrace, London SE9 8BA.

Closing date for applications forms: 23rd March 1987.

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

94-10/12

## MUSEUM OF LONDON DEPARTMENT OF GREATER LONDON ARCHAEOLGISTS

For excavation of Augustan priory site in Merton, South West London.

All posts offered on fixed term contract to end of June 1987 with possibility of extension.

Salary within the scale £7,546 - £10,137 inc. reviewable after 3 months.

Further details and application forms from: Personnel Officer, Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2Y 5HN. Tel: 01-600 3899 ext 212/222.

## NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION ESTATE MANAGER

### BISLEY SHOOTING CENTRE SURREY

The National Rifle Association seeks applicants for the executive post of Estate Manager for the Shooting Centre of Great Britain at Bisley becoming vacant in October 1987.

Responsible for the management and administration of the extensive camp and ranges and for planning and executing future development thereof.

Applicants must be available for interview in June and should apply with CV to:-

The Secretary, NRA, Bisley Camp, Brookwood, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0PE.

## BLATCHFORDS SOLICITORS

### PERSONAL INJURY SPECIALIST

Required for Central London firm to handle large volume of plaintiff personal injury litigation. The right applicant will be of above average ability, capable of working under pressure and will have had several years' experience of personal injury litigation. Very attractive package. Excellent prospects.

Send full C.V. to 21 Southampton Place, London, WC1A 2BP; Reference GJR.

## RIVERSIDE HEALTH AUTHORITY CHARING CROSS HOSPITAL

### THEATRE MANAGER - Up to £15,000

CAN YOU LEAD AND MOTIVATE

130 professional and support staff working in our modern operating theatres; post anaesthetic recovery room and day theatres, require a new manager.

You will be a good communicator, committed to the concept of general management and looking for a challenging post.

As well as managing the staff you will be responsible for a non-staff budget of approximately £500,000.

A record of solid managerial achievement is as important as direct experience of working in operating theatres for this post.

Informal enquiries to Dr Jeremy Hyde, Assistant General Manager, Charing Cross Hospital, Tel No. 01-748 2040 X 3081.

Information Packs and application forms from Carolyn Hucker, Personnel Officer, Tel No. 01 748 2040 Ext. 2995.

Closing date: 1st April 1987

## LEOMINSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL HOUSING AND TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT

### ASSISTANT ENGINEER

SO1 (£10,569 - £11,271)

Applications are invited for the above new post in the Engineering Section of the Housing and Technical Department. The duties will be mainly concerned with the design and supervision of sewerage schemes as agent for the Severn Trent and Welsh Water Authorities. However, the postholder will be required to carry out all duties in a small but busy Municipal Engineering Section.

Performance will be given to Chartered or Graduate Engineers with experience in design and construction of main drainage schemes and use of the Wainwright procedures.

Essential Car Users Allowance (up to 1199cc) and relocation expenses are payable and the tenancy of a house may be available for a period of twelve months.

Applications stating age, qualifications, experience, present post and salary together with the names and addresses of two referees should be forwarded to the Chief Housing and Technical Officer, Grange Court, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 9NL to be received not later than noon on Monday 30 March 1987.

CA ROBSON CHIEF EXECUTIVE

# LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

## Thomson Snell & Passmore Solicitors

### CONVEYANCERS

The continued growth of this large, Kent-based general legal practice now requires us to find at least two more assistant solicitors to help meet all the demands on the conveyancing departments throughout the Firm.

If you have a year or two's experience since admission and believe that your personal qualities are suited to a progressive firm with innovative ideas, we would like to hear from you.

Please ring, or write to, Charles Hooper, Thomson Snell & Passmore, 3 Lonsdale Gardens, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN11 1NX. Tel: Tunbridge Wells (0892) 510000.



## Meredith Scott

PENSIONS to c.£25,000 Specialist lawyer with at least 1 years relevant experience sought by reputable medium sized City practice.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY to c.£ 30,000 Thirty partner City firm seeks ambitious young solicitor, minimum 3 years qualified, with view to PARTNERSHIP.

CORPORATE TAX to c.£20,000 Major EC2 practice needs lawyer with at least 1 years practical experience.

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL to c.£21,000 City practice with significant American clients require young solicitor, newly to 3 years qualified.

CONVEYANCING to c.£17,000 Newly/ recently admitted solicitor wishing to specialise in commercial work required by prestigious EC4 firm.

Meredith Scott Recruitment 17 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1AA. 01-521 0055 or 01-541 3857 (after office hours)

## LAMPOR BASSITT AND HISCOCK SOUTHAMPTON

We have vacancies for two recently qualified solicitors in the following areas of work:

1. Assistant to litigation partner dealing with family and employment law and specialist licensing work.

2. Civil litigation, principally common law, for commercial, private and legally aided clients.

Both posts carry the opportunity for criminal advocacy. A realistic employment package will be offered to the right applicants.

Please apply to David Teagle or Robert Solomon at 45 The Avenue, Southampton 0703-43431

## THE COLLEGE OF LAW LECTURER IN LAW

Applications are invited from solicitors for a post of lecturer at its Guildford branch.

The salary will be within the scale £11,803 - £18,273 p.a. (which includes a Guildford allowance of £2515) with the entry point depending on qualifications and experience. Normal annual increments are £660.

Apply with full personal, professional and academic details to:

L.R.H. Griffiths, The College of Law, Brabourne Manor, St. Catherine's, Guildford Surrey GU3 1HA from whom further particulars may be obtained.

## COUNTY TOWN

Practising in this County Town Happy careers never a frown

We fear we'll lose this state of mind Crim-Mat. advocates are hard to find.

Would suit a person new to law With energy, humour, a bon viveur.

Join our team at S. & M. And wreathed in smiles we'll be again.

Send C.V. To J.M.E.

SYLVESTER & MACKETT Castle House Trowbridge Wiltshire BA14 8AX

## Unocal UK Limited North Sea Oil

### Exploration and Production

### LAWYER - SUNBURY ON THAMES

Unocal UK Limited is a subsidiary of Unocal Corporation, a leading US high technology, earth resources company with significant international interests.

We are looking for a solicitor or barrister with several years commercial law experience ideally in or related to the oil industry. Reporting to Unocal's Regional Counsel, the successful candidate will be expected rapidly to assume responsibility for a wide range of legal matters arising from the Company's exploration and production activities in the UK. Accordingly, in addition to a good academic background and relevant professional experience, the candidate will have the personality and maturity necessary to establish good working relationships at all levels.

The salary and benefits package will be competitive.

Applications to: Miss Jane Hunter Administration Services Supervisor

Unocal UK Limited 32 Cadbury Road

Sunbury on Thames Middlesex TW16 7LU

Tel: (0932) 785600



## BRITISH COAL CORPORATION WESTERN AREA SOLICITOR

The Legal Department of British Coal Corporation's Western Area requires a Solicitor (salary range £11,350 to £14,600 - under review) based at Anderton House, Louth, near Warrington, Cheshire.

The successful applicant is likely to be young and will have both a good academic record and experience in the fields of litigation, mining, employment, planning and property law.

A wide range of challenging work is offered in the fields of litigation, mining, employment, planning and property law. There are good career prospects and excellent conditions of service.

Please apply with CV to: Area Staff Manager/Secretary British Coal, Western Area Staffordshire House, Berry Hill Road Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire ST4 2NH

## OXTED - SURREY CRAWLEY - SUSSEX

Expanding go-ahead firm needs two more Solicitors to work in their new offices.

1. Conveyancing - Commercial and domestic.

2. General Litigation with scope for conveyancing, if desired.

ABOVE AVERAGE SALARIES Telephone: Mums Cree & Blake 0737-600367 - Ref. CO

## CYNGOR SIR GWYNEDD COUNTY COUNCIL

### PRINCIPAL PLANNING OFFICER DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

PO1 38-38 £12,255-£13,882

Applications are invited for the above post, based in Pwllheli, Gwynedd, from those possessing a recognised qualification in Town and Country Planning and with wide experience in Development Control matters.

The successful applicant will be team leader responsible for the National Park Officer and the Deputy for all development control duties including the processing of planning applications, enforcement matters, attendance at planning committees, preparation of reports and decisions and appearing at public inquiries.

Ability to communicate in Welsh desirable and in English essential for this post. Essential car allowance and essential expenses payable. Financial assistance towards removal and relocation expenses in appropriate cases. Application forms and further particulars for the above post available from the County Personnel Officer, County Office, Gwynedd, L25 2SN. Telephone: (0220) 4121, ext. 2678. Closing date 23rd March 1987.

## WATFORD

A small but expanding practice seeks a solicitor with general experience with emphasis on commercial work.

Forward for the right person will be a generous financial package leading to any early partnership.

Applications and CV to:

Brian Harrison Russell Roberts & Co 464 St Albans Road Watford Herts WD2 5DY

## TRUMP & PARTNERS BRISTOL CRIMINAL DEPARTMENT

Energetic solicitor required to join busy criminal department of this ten partner firm. Daily advocacy in Magistrates Courts.

Willingness to participate in PACE call out rota, one in five, essential. Salary and holiday entitlement to reflect extra duty.

Please forward CV to: Simon Morgan, Trump & Partners, 34 St Nicholas Street, Bristol.

## SUFFOLK COAST

Solicitor with at least 3 years post-admission experience sought to manage branch office in attractive market town. General non-contentious work. Personality and enthusiasm more important than academic ability. Definite Partnership prospects.

Please apply to: David Milton, Bailey Crome,

19/21 Clapham Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk.</



# LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

## Employee Share Schemes

Clifford-Turner's Employee Share Scheme Unit is expanding. The recently announced merger between Coward Chance and Clifford-Turner will lead to still more opportunities in this area.

Lawyers in the Unit advise a wide variety of businesses upon the establishment of equity participation schemes.

Our clients include not only public companies and multi-nationals but also fast growing private companies and other business entities.

Many of the projects on which we advise are novel and require an innovative and creative approach. Certain assignments have a large international element.

We seek additional lawyers (solicitors or barristers) to join the Unit. The successful applicant will require an understanding of tax company and trust law and an appreciation of company accounts and other commercial considerations.

We invite applications from lawyers with the relevant knowledge and experience or young lawyers of outstanding ability who are willing to develop the necessary expertise.

The successful candidate will enjoy a substantial salary, other benefits and good career prospects. We also offer the advantages of computer-based information systems and a continuing programme of in-house education to equip our lawyers to meet the growing demands of commercial legal practice.

Applicants should write to:

David E. Reid  
Clifford-Turner  
Blackfriars House  
19 New Bridge Street  
London EC4V 6BY.

**CLIFFORD  
-TURNER**

**COWARD  
CHANCE**

London, Paris, New York, Hong Kong, Tokyo  
Amsterdam, Brussels, Madrid, Singapore,  
Bahrain, Dubai, Saudi Arabia, Sharjah

## Tax Partner Designate

to £45,000 p.a. + Benefits

My clients are a well established and progressive medium-sized Central London commercial legal practice with a wide range of corporate and private clients. Due to continued expansion they have an immediate vacancy for a suitably qualified and experienced solicitor to establish and develop the firm's separate Taxation Department. They envisage the early appointment of assistant solicitors within the department to ensure an appropriate balance of specialisation.

The Department's work will involve advice to clients on complex corporate and property transactions and advice to private clients about estate planning, trusts and probate work.

Candidates should have an impressive academic background combined with substantial relevant taxation expertise acquired in a good legal practice. The ability to communicate effectively with clients and colleagues, sound business acumen and a flair for practice development are essential qualities for the successful person.

This appointment offers a unique opportunity for an ambitious and energetic solicitor to achieve early partnership in a stimulating professional environment.

Please apply with full C.V. quoting JH/159 to:

John Hamilton,  
51/53 High Street,  
Guildford, Surrey GU1 3DY  
Telephone: (0483) 574814



John Hamilton Associates  
Management & Recruitment Consultants

*Bredner & Co*

**INTERNATIONAL DIVISION**

£15,000 - £20,000

There are vacancies for lawyers qualified in common law and/or any civil law jurisdiction to assist with the development and handling of UK clients' business in Europe.

Successful candidates will:

- be familiar with both systems of law
- have international experience gained in private practice or as in-house counsel
- be bilingual (written as well as spoken) in English and one other European language (preference given to candidates with third language)
- be prepared to operate W/F/Computers
- be able to travel frequently and at short notice to our European desks.

Only qualified candidates to submit applications in writing to:

Loretta Gornall  
2nd Floor  
107 Cheapside  
London EC2V 6DA

**GLOVER &  
CO  
LONDON W1**

A conveyancing solicitor is needed to join our existing team in a friendly and expanding firm in offices near Marble Arch.

The work involves both residential and commercial conveyancing with the opportunity to gain wide experience in acting for interesting clients in a variety of matters.

The salary will be fully competitive.

Please apply by telephone or in writing to:

**RAY ANSTIS**  
Glover & Co  
115 Park Street  
London W1Y 4DY  
01-629 5121

## YOUNG SOLICITOR

*Use your commercial law expertise*

Working within a dynamically successful multi-national organisation which has created a name for itself as the world's No. 1 car rental company, presents young professionals with scope and challenge that is thoroughly exceptional.

We currently wish to appoint a qualified solicitor to act as Deputy to our Director of Legal Affairs - a role which will involve making significant decisions across the entire range of our business activities: negotiation and drafting of contracts, conveyancing, employment law, company law and EEC legislation. This level of involvement calls for a minimum of 2-3 years' post-qualification commercial experience, preferably in a company legal department.

Absolutely essential, is a combination of natural authority and tact which is an integral part of successful negotiation at the highest levels.

Occasional European travel will be required, and fluency in a relevant language would therefore undoubtedly be an advantage.

People with the necessary experience will currently be earning no less than £15,000 p.a., and looking towards a very substantial rewards package, including a favourable car leasing facility, BUPA and pension scheme.

Please write, with full career, salary and personal details, to Mrs. R. Hales, Personnel Manager, Hertz Europe Limited, Hertz House, 700 Bath Road, Cranford, Middlesex TW5 9SW; or telephone her on 01-759 2499.

**Hertz**

## Corporate Lawyers

Highly regarded for the quality of its work and the strength of its client list, Titmuss, Sainer & Webb, with its expanding practice, offers considerable opportunities to lawyers who want to work in a stimulating, yet friendly, atmosphere.

In addition to the four main departments: Company, Property, Litigation and Private Client, the firm has four units specialising in Employment, Planning, Taxation and Commercial work.

To handle mergers, acquisitions and other corporate finance work we are looking for solicitors, preferably with two years or more post-qualification experience in these areas of work, to join our Company Department.

Competitive salaries and a comprehensive benefits package, as well as realistic partnership prospects, are offered.

Applications to Dick Russell, Head of the Company Department

**Titmuss, Sainer & Webb**

2 Serjeants' Inn, London EC4Y 1LT

Telephone: 01-353 5242

**MCGRIGOR  
SOLICITORS  
DONALD**

**CORPORATE  
LAWYERS**

We are seeking two energetic and ambitious young lawyers to join our team of corporate legal advisors. Ideally you will have at least 1 or 2 years relevant experience.

Based in modern city centre offices you will be involved in advising public and private company clients on takeovers, management buyouts and a whole range of other corporate finance related transactions.

If you have a good academic record and are prepared to work long hours in a stimulating and dedicated environment we offer you the opportunity to join a firm in which personal development is positively encouraged and success is rewarded accordingly.

An attractive salary, and if necessary relocation package, is offered which will fully reflect your abilities and experience.

Please write, enclosing a comprehensive curriculum vitae, to Fred Shedden, Managing Partner, McGrigor Donald, Pacific House, 70 Wellington Street, Glasgow, G2 6SB.

**SOLICITOR REQUIRED  
Kentish Town**

General Family Practice.  
Excellent opportunity for able and diligent applicant.  
Tel: 01 486 8626 Mr Weston.

**WATSON, FARLEY & WILLIAMS**

## TAXATION

We are looking for a solicitor to deal with a wide variety of corporate taxation matters both domestic and international. He or she will form part of an established team giving advice both to clients direct and to other members of the firm in relation to the taxation implications of their work. This is a demanding but intellectually satisfying area of the law.

Up to two years relevant experience is desirable but not essential. More important is enthusiasm, intelligence and a capacity for hard work.

Please apply with full curriculum vitae to:

Christopher Preston  
Watson, Farley & Williams

Navigation House  
One Aldgate, London EC3N 1AA

**AMBITIOUS  
YOUNG  
PROPERTY  
LAWYER  
LONDON W1**

As part of our planned expansion programme, we seek a young property lawyer up to one year qualified to join our Property Department which undertakes the full range of property transactions with an emphasis on Development and Investment work.

The successful applicant will be given his or her own caseload of mixed commercial and residential work and will assist the Partners on other property matters.

This is an ideal opportunity for an able and enthusiastic lawyer to gain good experience of property work in a friendly and hard working environment.

A competitive salary and benefits consistent with an expanding Central London commercial practice will be paid.

Please write with full curriculum vitae to Stringer Saul, Marcol House, 293 Regent Street, London W1R 7PD (Ref: AJA).

**Stringer Saul**

**BROMLEY  
MAGISTRATES' COURTS  
COMMITTEE  
COURT CLERKS**

**Salary up to £15,939 + £738 London Weighting**  
Applications are invited from Solicitors or Barristers or other experienced persons qualified under the Justices' Clerks (Qualification of Assistant) Rules 1979 for the above posts. Appointees who are professionally qualified and able to take limited courts will be appointed at a salary of £12,050 p.a. including London Weighting.  
Bromley is a busy south London borough, having a population of 294,000. Successful applicants will be expected to take on a range of delegated responsibilities within the administration of the office and opportunities will be given for development of academic and technical expertise.

**TRAINEE COURT CLERK**  
Barrister/Solicitor Entrant

**Salary: £10,158 - £11,655 incl London Weighting**  
Applications for this post are invited from young qualified Barristers or Solicitors who wish to embark on a career in Magistrates' Courts. Further details and a career guide may be obtained from me at the address below. In-service training will be given in all types of courts. Articles of Clerkship can be offered if required.

JNC conditions of service apply; the above posts are superannuable. Generous removal expenses and disturbance allowances are payable in approved cases.  
Applications giving full details of age, education, qualifications and experience, together with the names and addresses of two referees, should reach me not later than 28th March 1987 marked 'Confidential'.

R J Haynes  
Clerk to the Magistrates' Court Committee  
Bromley Magistrates' Court  
The Court House  
South Street  
Bromley BR1 1RD



# LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

## PARTNER COMPANY COMMERCIAL

EC4

Our client, a progressive six partner firm offers an excellent opportunity to an experienced and ambitious commercial lawyer.

Assuming full control of this department's activities, the successful applicant will be encouraged to develop the existing client base in addition to generating new business.

The current workload embraces a wide range of company and commercial matters.

This position would be ideal for a young City lawyer seeking increased responsibility for client liaison and the expansion of a department. It carries the prospect of very short term or, for the right applicant, immediate partnership.

For further details please contact John Cullen.

## COMMERCIAL PROPERTY PARTNERSHIP PROSPECTS

Leading EC2 practice seeks solicitor with at least three years post-qualification experience for its commercial property department. The client list is impressive and as a result you can expect a consistently high quality varied workload. Definite partnership prospects are on offer and a congenial working atmosphere.

## INSOLVENCY CITY

Respected large City firm urgently requires additional solicitors to join its Insolvency Department. The work encompasses all aspects of receiverships, liquidations and bankruptcies, often with an international flavour. Applicants are welcomed at all levels, and for the right, more experienced, candidates, there are early partnership prospects.

## CORPORATE FINANCE From £22,000 + Bens

We are actively recruiting on behalf of leading City merchant banks and stockbrokers seeking high calibre lawyers to join their expanding corporate finance teams.

Applicants aged 26-32 will have gained good post qualification experience with a leading City firm of solicitors and demonstrate commercial awareness and excellent inter-personal skills.

For further details please contact Judith Farmer.

## JAMES CHAPMAN & CO.

### MANCHESTER CITY CENTRE SOLICITORS

The practice specialises in litigation and associated work on behalf of leading Insurers and Underwriters and requires experienced Solicitors, particularly those with experience in London, to join the practice. Vacancies also available for inexperienced Solicitors wishing to be trained and specialise in this expanding field of work.

Realistic and attractive terms of employment offered with future partnership prospects.

Applicants are requested to reply in writing and in confidence to The Senior Partner. Interviews can be arranged in Manchester and London.

**JAMES CHAPMAN & CO., CANADA HOUSE,  
3 CHEPSTOW STREET, MANCHESTER M1 5ER.**

## BADENOCH & CLARK

THE LEGAL AND FINANCIAL RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS  
15-16 NEW BRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON EC4A  
TELEPHONE 01-583 0073 (DAY) 01-383 5846 (EVENINGS)  
OR CONTACT JOHN CULLEN ON 01-587 0208  
(EVENINGS OR WEEKENDS)

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THE LEGAL AND FINANCIAL RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS  
15-16 NEW BRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON EC4A  
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OR CONTACT JOHN CULLEN ON 01-587 0208  
(EVENINGS OR WEEKENDS)

## Hoggett Bowers

Executive Search and Selection Consultants

### Head of Legal Services

Large Commodity Brokers

City £25,000-£30,000

A solicitor/administrator is required, interested in international commercial contract work and finance. This leading company is established and profitable, with extensive worldwide operations and an annual turnover of more than £100m. The position includes developing the company's selling and shipping contracts, worldwide financial documentation, taxation and property and employment law, litigation, the pension fund, EEC law and intellectual property. It also covers the management of 19 people handling the head office personnel, property and services administration. The person appointed will act as company secretary and guide the international board on UK law. This is an unusual opportunity, handling responsibilities from supporting commercial negotiations with foreign governments, to the direction of manual employees. In the small top team, you will be closely involved in company strategy. Willingness to train in financial services, treasury and options work, would be an additional advantage.

Male or female candidates should submit in confidence a comprehensive C.V. or telephone for a Personal History Form to D. Venables, Hoggett Bowers plc, 1/2 Hanover Street, LONDON, W1R 9WB, 01-734 6852, quoting Ref: 48025/T.

## SOLICITOR ADVOCATE

£14,000 to £18,500 pa + Car.  
Mainly to do Criminal legal aid work. Pension scheme and good administrative support. Send C.V. to:

**MURRAY,  
94-96 WALWORTH ROAD,  
LONDON SE1 6SW.**

## LEGAL EXECUTIVE / CONVEYANCER

Due to continuing expansion, Hunting Gate Homes are currently seeking a Conveyancer for our in-house Legal Department, based in Hitchin.

In your late twenties / early thirties, you should have considerable experience of domestic conveyancing gained either with private practice Solicitors or in the Legal Department of a Homebuilder. You will be responsible for all aspects of estate development reporting to the Company's Legal Manager.

Salary is negotiable. Additional benefits include company car and free life insurance, together with a non-contributory pension and BUPA after qualifying period.

For further details and application form, please write to W.G. Campbell, Legal Manager, Hunting Gate Homes Ltd, 3/4 Park Street, Hitchin, Herts.



## ESSEX MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE Billericay and Brentwood Petty Sessions Divisions

### COURT CLERK OR SENIOR COURT CLERK

CC/PA 3-7 or 8-12  
£9,420-£10,917 or £11,292-£12,782  
plus £201 Outer Fringe Allowance

If you are qualified under the Justices Clerk's (Qualification of Assistants) Rules 1979, and able to undertake without supervision all types of court together with oversight of pre and post court functions, and where required, take responsibility for one or more aspects of office administration or finance, then you may be interested in applying for this post based at Billericay, providing assistance to Brentwood as required.

Commencing salary and grade will be dependent upon experience. Applicants for the senior post must have a minimum of 2 years post-qualifying experience.

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Application form and further details from Clerk of the Committee (Personnel Section), County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX. Tel: (0245) 267222 ext. 2017. Closing date 3 April 1987.

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Applicants for the other vacancy should preferably have one years post admission experience, and have gained some knowledge with a Commercial Property Department. Though a newly admitted applicant with suitable experience in articles will be considered.

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**THE LAW SOCIETY**

Public Company



Law Report March 17 1987

# Court agrees to sterilization of girl aged 17

In re B (a Minor) (Sterilization)

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Stephen Brown and Lord Justice Nicholls (Judgment March 16)

The court had jurisdiction to authorize a sterilization operation on a ward of court in wardship proceedings but it was a jurisdiction which should be exercised only as a last resort when all other forms of contraception had been considered.

Moreover, there was no question of a natural parent or a local authority having parental rights giving consent to a sterilization operation without first obtaining the leave of the court in wardship proceedings.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the Official Solicitor acting as guardian ad litem of the ward from a decision of Mr Justice Bingham sitting in chambers in Newcastle upon Tyne on January 20, 1987. The judge had granted leave to Sunderland Borough Council to arrange for a sterilization operation upon the ward.

Mr Henry Turcan for the guardian ad litem, Miss Christine Harmer for the local authority, Miss Eleanor Hamilton for the mother.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the proceedings were started by the local authority in June 1986 to establish wardship and to obtain the leave of the court for the ward to undergo a sterilization operation. In that application the local authority was supported by the ward's mother.

The ward was born on May 20, 1969 and she would be 18 years old in May. She was the second of five children of the mother. Her father who had left home when he was divorced from the mother and played no part in the proceedings.

On May 31, 1973 a care order was made in respect of the ward vesting care in the local authority and transferring parental rights to the local authority under section (2)(a) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969. She had lived in homes run by the local authority and spent weekends and part of the school holidays with her mother at the mother's home.

The Official Solicitor was appointed guardian ad litem with leave to arrange medical examinations. The ward had a moderate degree of mental handicap. She did not need protection under the Mental Health Act but she was of low intelligence. She could dress herself, look after herself during menstruation and perform simple domestic tasks but her power of communication was limited to a few words at a time.

She could not be let out because she did not understand traffic or the use of money. She was an epileptic but the fit were controlled by drugs.

She could hope to attain the ability of a five or six year old in some skills.

She suffered from extremes of mood and could be one of her moods become very aggressive and violent. She also had a history of reacting badly to medication.

Lately, it had been observed by the mother and the local authority that she was showing signs of sexual awareness and sexual drive with a risk of pregnancy.

Many years ago a risk of pregnancy would not have arisen because she would have been strictly institutionalized. Now she was given a greater degree of freedom and with it a greater risk of sexual intercourse and pregnancy.

Therefore the question of long-term contraception was considered and because of the

various drugs she was prescribed it was thought that there were only two possible methods: (i) progesterone taken daily in pill form for the rest of her reproductive life and (ii) sterilization by occluding the fallopian tubes which would be an irreversible procedure.

In re B (1976) Fam 185, 1935) Mrs Justice Holman, in refusing sterilization, said that the operation was one which involved the deprivation of a basic human right, namely, the right of a woman to reproduce, and, therefore, it would be, if performed on a woman for non-therapeutic reasons and without her consent, a violation of such right.

That was what made the present case such an anxious one. The ward was and would remain incapable of giving an informed consent to sterilization, abortion or marriage. As for the mother, she was not right to reproduce would mean nothing to her.

She had no desire to reproduce and she would not link sex with the birth of a baby and would not be capable of looking after a baby. If she became pregnant the pregnancy would have to be terminated.

As to jurisdiction, it was common ground that section 1 of the Guardianship of Minors Act 1971 did not apply and that there was no power in any statute or at common law to enable a sterilization operation to be sanctioned without the consent after she had reached 18. Therefore, the wardship jurisdiction of the court was invoked.

In re D, Mrs Justice Hilderson had referred to *Waller v Duke of Bedford* (1827) 2 Russ 1, 20 where Lord Eldon, Lord Chancellor, had said that the wardship jurisdiction was founded on the obvious necessity that the law should take care of individuals who could not take care of themselves.

His Lordship would hold that the court in wardship proceedings had jurisdiction to authorize a sterilization operation on a ward but it was a jurisdiction which should be exercised only in the last resort.

Moreover, there was no question of a natural parent or a local authority having parental rights seeking to have a sterilization operation on a minor carried out without the leave of the court in wardship proceedings.

Was this a case of last resort? Having regard to all the evidence and taking account of the fact that the operation was irreversible, his Lordship was of the view that it was, because of the unsuitability of other forms of contraception.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHEN BROWN and LORD JUSTICE NICHOLLS agreed.

Solicitors: Official Solicitor, Mr J. Turner, Sunderland; Hamilton & Bannister, Sunderland.

## Duty to Lords

In *Ainsbury v Millington* (The Times March 13) which referred to the duty of counsel and solicitors to inform appellate courts of any event which arguably disposed of the appeal, it should have been made clear that Lord Bridge said that when the appeal was called on for being heard the Lords were required to be satisfied that the appeal could be properly entertained, having regard to the termination of the parties' tenancy by the relevant decisions.

Further, his Lordship did not suggest that blame attached to anyone in the instant case. The legal aid authorities were kept fully informed of the relevant developments and acted on counsel's opinion in deciding that legal aid for the appeal could properly be continued.

## Not so much a reunion, more a revival, as an old show is set to a new tempo

# T and D to put fire back in the ice

Cincinnati

It may have seemed a nightmare at the time but Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean are beginning to count the benefits that have flowed from the accident that has put them out of action for nearly three months.

"We were pretty run down and tired," Dean says, "and too busy performing to put our minds to new ideas. Now we've had time to stand back and assess our situation. Things are happening again now and we're really excited. We're bursting to get back into action. We're revitalized."

An Italian restaurant in Cincinnati was the scene of one of their three-concert reunion, the first time they had met since collaborating on a book three years ago. They had been summoned here to be presented with the Jacques Favart Trophy, an award given only occasionally by the International Skating Union to those who have brought special distinction to the sport.

This was in the middle of the world championships here and I noted a marked change in their demeanour. In their amateur days one would have known better than to approach them during competition. Now, with others under the whip, they were totally relaxed, cheerfully greeting well-wishers, familiar or otherwise, and signing autographs.

They are still big in the United States in spite of the accident at Portland, Maine, on November 29. The date came out pat, seemingly etched in Chris's memory, because it marked such a traumatic change in their circumstances. It was to have been the tenth of a whistle-stop tour of 60 cities. It proved to be the last.

Coming off the ice after rehearsal he had tripped, fallen awkwardly and hurt his right wrist. Nothing much to worry about was his first reaction but within a quarter of an hour of ice treatment and manipulation, which almost certainly aggravated the injury, he realized it might be serious.

He later learned he had fractured the scaphoid, a tiny bone less than an inch long joining the gap between the forefinger and thumb at the wrist. "It's the king-pin of the wrist," he explains. "Yet X-rays can fail to pick it up, sometimes it never mends."

By now the paying customers in Portland were entering the hall. "We had a commitment to them," Jayne adds, "so we did the first number, our Olympic *passe double*, but I realized we couldn't possibly complete the show."



Taking off again: Torvill and Dean are winging their way to a new peak

know he was in pain by the way he was holding back. He is not like that.

"We've all had our aches and pains but Chris has always been an example to the whole company in fighting through anything like that. I knew now we were in trouble. We'd tried some lifts before doing the *passe*. It's horrible to think he was doing that with a broken wrist."

The rest of the company completed the first half of the show, duly adjusted while Chris sought medical treatment, but the promoters had to announce at the interval that their star attractions had had to pull out and invite the audience to reclaim their money.

The kids, as Jayne calls the rest of the company, were distraught. "They'd thought at first 'wow, we're off for the afternoon,'" Jayne says, "but when we had to give them the three weeks notice under contract they were in tears. It was really sad."

We were both shattered psychologically."

Chris was in plaster for eight weeks, though able to skate on his own quite soon after the accident. Jayne took the opportunity to have an operation to reduce a swelling on the right ankle.

The lay-off has been a costly setback, though they have no precise figures. Jayne's one extravagance is a Mercedes sports car, a fascinating choice for a young woman generally averse from showing off, except, of course, on the ice. As for Chris, "He has an E-type Jag, but," she adds with a mischievous smile, "he bought his second-hand."

They are proud of the way they have brought their company from three or so couples in the first place to a total now of 16. "We've all grown up together into one big family," Jayne says. "We've made it clear that everyone is just as important as the

next person. Status as amateurs is irrelevant and we've had to drill that out of them. There is no distinction between ice dancers and pair skaters and we get them to change partners if necessary. They accept that as a challenge."

"If you play fair with them," Chris explains, "the rest of the company will do any chastising that is necessary if someone steps out of line. But we're pretty lucky. We discovered that one couple weren't up to it and they lasted only a short time. That's rare." They expect to be able to call on the same skaters when they reassemble later this year.

As for the future, Chris bubbles with enthusiasm. He promises two completely new shows from next year, with a hint in the eye which suggests he expects them to make a big impact. Meanwhile, the first commitment is to finish the United States tour, albeit truncated, next winter. In the meantime they hope to fit in a short European tour.

It is odd to think that at a time when the International Skating Union are contemplating reducing the compulsory dances, along with abandoning the compulsory figures, Chris and Jayne have gone back to basics. "We spent three hours one day at Slough recently doing nothing but three turns, left foot, right foot, backwards and forwards and from now on we'll practise compulsory dances every day. It's our *har* work."

The parallel with ballet is specially appropriate because they, indeed their whole company, now set much store by floor dance and Chris has choreographed a solo item for himself lasting almost seven minutes. Those who saw their television show "Fire and Ice" will readily appreciate why he is branching out into that sphere.

Their new shows too, will depend heavily on his choreographic skills, because they will be substantially his own creation. "He has now learned how to choreograph a whole company, not just him and me," Jayne adds.

Their relationship grows even more secure. The responsibility for looking after the company and the myriad by-product activities means they are no longer totally wrapped up in each other. "We've learned to get on with other people," Chris says, "and I've been good for both of us. We've found out more about each other in the process and we're even closer together now."

John Hennessy

## MOTOR RACING

# Palmer's Porsche deal with Lloyd

By a Correspondent

Jonathan Palmer, one of Britain's leading Grand Prix drivers, has signed to drive a Liqui Moly Porsche 962 for Richard Lloyd Racing in the World Sports-Prototype championship which begins in Spain next Monday.

The qualified driver has driven for Lloyd's Silverstone-based team in previous seasons, his successes including victory at Brands Hatch in 1984 and second at Le Mans in 1985. Later that year he was lucky to survive a massive accident at Spa which broke his right leg. Now he leads the team with Baldi, the Italian, as his partner.

Palmer was at one stage a candidate for Silk Cut Jaguar but his determination to hang on for the No. 2 McLaren F1 drive alongside Prost, the world champion, which eventually went to the Swede, Johansson, lost him both that opportunity and his Zakspeed drive to Brundage.

With his Porsche deal agreed, he now harbours hopes of driving the second Tyrrell or Brabham this season.



Palmer: Lloyd's lead driver

● Raul Boesel, the Brazilian who competed with Palmer during the 1981 F3 season, served notice at Silverstone last Thursday that he will rival him again in this year's World Sports Prototype championship. During testing he lapped his Silk Cut Jaguar XJR6 in 1min 9.9sec, which will stand as the fastest-ever sports car lap of the existing circuit layout, which is to undergo modification within the next few weeks.

● The overwhelming victory by John Herbert in Sunday's opening round of the Lucas British F3 championship has thrown many teams into confusion. The British driver's Stefan Reynard used a new Spaes-modified Volkswagen engine, and though Herbert drove superbly he clearly had that rare thing in the competitive world of F3—a power advantage. Now many must consider equipping themselves with similar units, assuming they will be available.

The pre-event favourites, Donnelly, Danielsson and McCarthy, were upstaged as the newcomers, Michael Schumacher and Kox took the next three places.

THURSTON: British Formula Three Championship: First round: 1, J. Herbert, 1min 22.5sec; 2, E. Gardner, 1min 23.2sec; 3, M. Schumacher, 1min 23.8sec; 4, M. McCarthy, 1min 24.1sec; 5, J. Danielsson, 1min 24.5sec; 6, J. Donnelly, 1min 25.1sec; 7, J. Kox, 1min 25.2sec; 8, J. Reynolds, 1min 25.3sec; 9, J. McCarthy, 1min 25.4sec; 10, J. Schumacher, 1min 25.5sec; 11, J. Danielsson, 1min 25.6sec; 12, J. Donnelly, 1min 25.7sec; 13, J. Kox, 1min 25.8sec; 14, J. Reynolds, 1min 25.9sec; 15, J. McCarthy, 1min 26.0sec; 16, J. Schumacher, 1min 26.1sec; 17, J. Danielsson, 1min 26.2sec; 18, J. Donnelly, 1min 26.3sec; 19, J. Kox, 1min 26.4sec; 20, J. Reynolds, 1min 26.5sec; 21, J. McCarthy, 1min 26.6sec; 22, J. Schumacher, 1min 26.7sec; 23, J. Danielsson, 1min 26.8sec; 24, J. Donnelly, 1min 26.9sec; 25, J. Kox, 1min 27.0sec; 26, J. Reynolds, 1min 27.1sec; 27, J. McCarthy, 1min 27.2sec; 28, J. Schumacher, 1min 27.3sec; 29, J. Danielsson, 1min 27.4sec; 30, J. Donnelly, 1min 27.5sec; 31, J. Kox, 1min 27.6sec; 32, J. Reynolds, 1min 27.7sec; 33, J. McCarthy, 1min 27.8sec; 34, J. Schumacher, 1min 27.9sec; 35, J. Danielsson, 1min 28.0sec; 36, J. Donnelly, 1min 28.1sec; 37, J. Kox, 1min 28.2sec; 38, J. Reynolds, 1min 28.3sec; 39, J. McCarthy, 1min 28.4sec; 40, J. Schumacher, 1min 28.5sec; 41, J. Danielsson, 1min 28.6sec; 42, J. Donnelly, 1min 28.7sec; 43, J. Kox, 1min 28.8sec; 44, J. Reynolds, 1min 28.9sec; 45, J. McCarthy, 1min 29.0sec; 46, J. Schumacher, 1min 29.1sec; 47, J. Danielsson, 1min 29.2sec; 48, J. Donnelly, 1min 29.3sec; 49, J. Kox, 1min 29.4sec; 50, J. Reynolds, 1min 29.5sec; 51, J. McCarthy, 1min 29.6sec; 52, J. Schumacher, 1min 29.7sec; 53, J. Danielsson, 1min 29.8sec; 54, J. Donnelly, 1min 29.9sec; 55, J. Kox, 1min 30.0sec; 56, J. Reynolds, 1min 30.1sec; 57, J. McCarthy, 1min 30.2sec; 58, J. Schumacher, 1min 30.3sec; 59, J. Danielsson, 1min 30.4sec; 60, J. Donnelly, 1min 30.5sec; 61, J. Kox, 1min 30.6sec; 62, J. Reynolds, 1min 30.7sec; 63, J. 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thruster called Stearsday in the Gold Cup on Thursday. "He's got youth on his side, and lots of courage and strength." He suffered a knock in training yesterday but Mrs Pitman remains, as ever, optimistic. Others in her Cheltenham hand which "wouldn't be without a chance" are The A Train, Red Rocky and Croix de Guerre.

"They get five-star hotel treatment. Any horse that falls goes into a box for infra-red heat treatment, whether he seems to need it or not. And if they need gold dust to win, they get gold dust. Whatever they need, it doesn't matter. As I say to the owners, if you put a bucket of slack on to the fire, you get a lot of smoke. If you put on the heat, you get the crack, you get heat and fire." No one has ever accused Mrs Pitman of being lukewarm.

**BRITISH MASTERS:** Quarter-final: HFS Portsmouth v SPCC Derby.



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# TELEVISION AND RADIO

Edited by Sophie Witter and Christopher Davalle

## Making a meal out of cooking

### CHOICE

Cookery programmes are too often just filling, today's equivalent of the old potter's wheel film. Of recent presenters Keith Floyd, with his devil-may-care approach, at least left one assured that the pudding was on the table, not behind it. Mediterranean Cooking (BBC2, 8.30pm) is more packaging, the content and offering the now familiar BBC combination of a programme linked to the publication of a pricy book. Food more than anything we're told evokes the country and spirit of its people. A pity then that the commentary here doesn't rise above cliché and the pictures routine travelogue. Claudia Roden starts this seven-part series in Egypt, whose diet of fruit, vegetables, pulses and grain, with little meat and fat, is generally very healthy.

Minced meat is the best the Smith family manages, on Sundays, in World of Us (BBC1, 11.55pm). Each night this week, the effects of prolonged unemployment on the Smith family is examined. "It's just an existence, that's all it is," says John Smith, jobless for the third time in three years. "And you've got to eat it out as best you can."

Earth: The Coming of the Green (ITV, 10.40pm) traces the development of the environmental movement through the writing of people like Harrison Brown, who did early pioneering work on population growth, and Rachel Carson, whose book *Silent Spring* challenged the whole fabric of industrial society.

Just for Laughs (Channel 4, 10.50pm) features North American comics on stage in Montreal and the British comedian Helen Lederer. Paul Reiser, a star in the film *Alien*, produces the most polished act in a by-and-large funny show. How exactly did they get sweaters off sheep? he imagines being asked upon his resurrection in some future age. Stumped for an answer, he's then asked if he did live in the 20th century. "Yes," he replies, "but I wasn't paying attention."

The radio choice is The Tuesday Feature (Radio 4, 8.30pm), a repeat of *Behind the Mask*, which attempts to penetrate the mystery surrounding the identity of the Man in the Iron Mask who died in the Bastille in 1793.

Chris Petit



Investing in the future: A dramatization of a true-life, two-year strike by women bank employees. *Women of Wilmar* (Ch4, 9pm)

- BBC1**
- 6.00 *Confax AM*.
  - 6.55 *Weather*.
  - 7.00 *Breakfast Time* with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson and Jeremy Paxman. National and international news at 7.05.
  - 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30: regional news and traffic reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
  - 8.40 *Watchdog*. Consumer problems investigated.
  - 8.55 Regional news and weather.
  - 9.00 *News* and weather 9.05 day to day. With Robert Kilroy-Glik.
  - 9.45 *Advice Shop*. Margo Macdonald advises on how to keep up mortgage repayments.
  - 10.00 *News* and weather 10.05.
  - 10.25 *Children's BBC* with Philip Schofield 10.30 *Play School* (r).
  - 10.50 *Paddlington* (r).
  - 10.55 *Five to Eleven*. Hannah Gordon with a thought for the day 11.00 *News* and weather 11.05.
  - 11.10 *Spiders*. Includes tips on fish dishes for kids and how to start a tool kit 1.30 *Open Air* includes new and weather at 12.00.
  - 12.20 *The Tom O'Connor Roadshow*. Variety show from Port Talbot with Debbie Greenwood 12.55 *Regional news* and weather.
  - 1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Mary O'Leary. Weather 1.25.
  - 1.55 *Neighbours*. Eileen Clarke clashes with Joan Langdon 1.50 *Gran* (r) 1.55 *Animal Fair* (r).
  - 2.05 *The Cheltenham Festival*. First day of the National Hunt meeting 2.15 *The Waterloo Crystal Supper*. Novices hurdle 2.50 *The Arkle Challenge Trophy* Steeplechase.
  - 3.00 *Budget 87*. Peter Snow presents coverage of the budget, with comment from Sir Patrick Mayne, Gavin Laird and Peter Oppenheimer. Sir Robin Day gets the reaction of leading politicians.
  - 12.10 *Weather*.

- BBC2**
- 6.55 *Open University*. Living with the Budget on tax payers, the City and voters in the key marginal constituencies of Pendle in Lancashire.
  - 8.25 *Hill House*. Carsten Ties.
  - 8.30 *Stix O'Clock News* with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Wright.
  - 8.35 *London Film*.
  - 7.00 *Holiday 87* introduced by Frank Bough. A look at cycling in Ireland. New Orleans by Greyhound bus and holidays in Mexico. (Ceefax).
  - 7.30 *EastEnders*. Pats is not the only one to have had Pat, but will he be the one who is? (Ceefax).
  - 8.00 *Comedy*. Comedy series starring Ronnie Corbett and Barbara Lott. (Ceefax).
  - 8.30 *Dear John* starring Ralph Bates. (Ceefax).
  - 9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Julia Somerville and Philip Hayton. Regional news and weather.
  - 9.30 *Budget 87*. With the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Rt Hon Nigel Lawson.
  - 9.40 *Trust Frail*. Danny takes time out for a television tribute to the Beast of Rock while Suzi joins in the bandwagon. (Ceefax).
  - 10.40 *Film 87*. Barry Norman with extracts from *The Fourth Protocol*, a film version of Forsyth's cold-war thriller starring Michael Caine, and *War Zone*, where political intrigue is carried out against the background of war-torn Beirut.
  - 11.05 *Chris de Burgh*. In concert from the King's Hall, Belfast. Songs include *Don't Play the Fannyman*, *Fatal Hesitation* and *The Lady in Red*.
  - 11.55 *World of Us*. The Smith family faces the prospect of moving again to find work. John is unemployed for the third time in three years and enrolls on a MSC course to improve his chances. (see Choice).
  - 12.10 *Weather*.

- ITV/LONDON**
- 6.15 *TV-am* with Richard Kay. Weather 6.28 and 6.55: news at 6.30; sport at 6.40; and exercises at 6.55.
  - 7.00 *Good Morning Britain* presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. News at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; cartoon at 7.25; sport at 7.45; pop music at 7.55 and postbag at 8.55. After Nine is presented by Jayne Irving, with guest star Barbara Day.
  - 8.25 *News* headlines.
  - 9.30 *Schools*: the tragedy of Eym village in 1855 9.50 *How we interpret news* 10.05 *Using hand signs* 10.25 *Part two of the city of Caro* 11.10 *Writing notes* 11.27 *Safety in the home* 11.44 *Author and illustrator Anthony Browne talks about inspiration*.
  - 12.00 *Tickle on the Tum* (r) 12.10 *Rainbow* (r) 12.30 *The Sullivan*. Dave helps a family without a home.
  - 1.00 *News* at One with Leonard Parfitt 1.20 *Thames News* 1.30 *Bulman*. The story of a villain who returns home from exile. (Oracle).
  - 2.30 *Daytime*. Sarah Kennedy leads a discussion on the pros and cons of late parenthood. Guests in the studio are Geraldine James, Sheila Kitzinger, Dr Gillian Craig and the editor of *Options* magazine, Sally O'Sullivan.
  - 3.00 *Budget 87*. Sir Alastair Burnet presents the budget and verdicts on the Chancellor's fourth budget. Carol Barnes interviews guests Norman Williams, General Secretary of the TUC, and Sir Ralph Walpole, Burton Group Chairman; political editor Michael Brunson monitors the reactions of MPs; Nicholas Davies reports on views in the City and Jon Snow asks Peterborough shoppers how they think their lives will be affected.
  - 5.45 *News* with Alastair Stewart. PM Budget Speech, 6.00 *Thames News*.
  - 6.30 *Bushman's Holiday*. Brian Ral guards the of London-York route compete against shippers from Dover-Caleas fumes. (Oracle).
  - 7.00 *Emmerdale Farm*. Eager preparations for Robert's first birthday.
  - 7.30 *Reporting London*. Reporter Michael Wilson looks at the problem of illegal deer poachers in the home.
  - 8.00 *Highway to Heaven*. Last of two-part series about an angel sent to show his worth on earth.
  - 9.00 *Boon*. Ken turns for advice to an unusual person when faced with the prospect of losing his business. Starring Michael Elphick and David Daker.
  - 10.00 *News* at Ten presented by Alastair Burnet and Carol Barnes. Weather followed by *Thames* news headlines.
  - 10.30 *The Budget*. The Rt Hon Nigel Lawson MP discusses today's budget.
  - 10.40 *Earth: The Coming of the Green*. The second episode of the series, in which Anne Massey narrates the story of our developing awareness of ecology - of how nature works and how we are interfering with its processes. (see Choice).
  - 11.40 *Film: Downfall* (1935). Maurice Denham plays plays criminal lawyer Sir Harold Crossley in this Edgar Wallace thriller. His defence of Martin Somers, accused of murder, is successful, but his own life is in jeopardy. Directed by John Moxey.
  - 12.40 *Night Thoughts* with the Rev Wynne Lewis.

- CHANNEL 4**
- 12.15 *Their Lordships' House*. Highlights of yesterday's debates in the House of Lords. (r).
  - 2.30 *Film: The Terror* (1938). Based on the Edgar Wallace play about two crooks who trail The Terror to a haunted priory. Starring Alastair Sim and Henry Oscar. Not to be mistaken for the 1953 Boris Karloff film of the same title. Directed by Richard Bird.
  - 3.45 *Years Ahead*. The over-60's magazine presented by Robert Douglas, discusses fitness, self-defence for the elderly and benefit payments for the disabled. With Kim Godfree and Cherry Marshall.
  - 4.30 *Countdown*. Confectionary factoryworker Martin Horwell from York is today's challenger in the words and numbers game. Richard Whitley is the questionmaster, assisted by Richard Skelton.
  - 5.00 *Switched*. Arguments over Halloween in this episode of the comedy about a modern witch. Samantha Stephens. Great Witches go today to the Malvern Hills for the first of six programmes set in different parts of Britain. (r).
  - 6.00 *Shane: The Killer in the Valley*. Television spin-off of the Western classic. Shane struggles to get medicine but finds the whole stock has been bought up. Starring David Carradine.
  - 7.00 *Channel 4 News*. Presented by Peter Sissons and Chrissie King. With a report on this afternoon's budget. Followed by *Weather*.
  - 8.00 *Brookside*. Paul begins to suspect who killed his dog and Billy and Noreen think about moving south.
  - 8.30 *4 What's It Worth*. Reports on a horse-racing syndicate, the problems facing people looking for homes in big cities, the best buys in vintage machines and an update on car recalls.
  - 9.00 *Film: The Women of Wilmar* (1983). True-life story of the battle against sexual discrimination of eight women bank employees in seven-minute segments. Starring Lee Grant, Jean Stapleton and Dinah Manoff. Directed by Lee Grant.
  - 10.50 *Just for Laughs*. First in a new series of highlights from the Festival of Comedy which took place in Montreal, Canada, last July. Tonight starring British comedienne Helen Lederer, American Jay Leno and Paul Reiser. (see Choice).
  - 11.20 *Comedy WaveLength*. New comedy sketches, presented by Pat Merton.
  - 11.50 *Coming Next*. Hilarious snippets in the *Sloane Square* (r).
  - 12.15 *Their Lordships' House*. Today's proceedings from the House of Lords. Ends at 12.30.

- VARIATIONS**
- BBC1** WALSLEY 5.55pm-6.00 *Wales Today* 6.05-7.00 *Computer Challenge* 8.40-10.05 *Week in Wales* 10.05-11.05 *Top Gear* 11.05-12.30 *News* 12.35-1.40 *News and weather* 1.45-2.00 *Scottish* 2.05-2.30 *Scottish* 2.35-3.00 *Scottish* 3.05-3.30 *Scottish* 3.35-4.00 *Scottish* 4.05-4.30 *Scottish* 4.35-5.00 *Scottish* 5.05-5.30 *Scottish* 5.35-6.00 *Scottish* 6.05-6.30 *Scottish* 6.35-7.00 *Scottish* 7.05-7.30 *Scottish* 7.35-8.00 *Scottish* 8.05-8.30 *Scottish* 8.35-9.00 *Scottish* 9.05-9.30 *Scottish* 9.35-10.00 *Scottish* 10.05-10.30 *Scottish* 10.35-11.00 *Scottish* 11.05-11.30 *Scottish* 11.35-12.00 *Scottish* 12.05-12.30 *Scottish* 12.35-1.00 *Scottish* 1.05-1.30 *Scottish* 1.35-2.00 *Scottish* 2.05-2.30 *Scottish* 2.35-3.00 *Scottish* 3.05-3.30 *Scottish* 3.35-4.00 *Scottish* 4.05-4.30 *Scottish* 4.35-5.00 *Scottish* 5.05-5.30 *Scottish* 5.35-6.00 *Scottish* 6.05-6.30 *Scottish* 6.35-7.00 *Scottish* 7.05-7.30 *Scottish* 7.35-8.00 *Scottish* 8.05-8.30 *Scottish* 8.35-9.00 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# Fulham owner in crisis talks

David Bulstrode, the Fulham chairman, is ready to consider a partial redevelopment of Craven Cottage, which would enable the club to carry on playing football there.

Although Bulstrode, who is also chairman of the property developers Marler Estates, does not think the scheme will work, he is to have further talks with Hammersmith and Fulham Council. Bulstrode met Gordon Prentice, the council leader, and the local MP Nick Raynsford, yesterday to try to thrash out a formula to keep Fulham in existence.

The politicians are in favour of a plan to redevelop all four sides of Craven Cottage and build luxury flats. Bulstrode said: "I don't believe such a scheme would be financially viable, either from a property point of view or for the football club."

Marler has received an offer of £20 million from a builder who wanted to redevelop the site but Bulstrode said the offer had no safeguards for the future of the football club.

# Prospect of Scottish derby final

A Tayside derby final between Dundee and Dundee United is in prospect after yesterday's Scottish Cup semi-final draw. However, United still have to overcome Forfar, with whom they drew last Saturday. The replay will be staged next Tuesday.

The other semi-final pits Hearts or Motherwell against St Mirren. The Scottish FA will delay announcing the venues for the ties until after tonight's replay between Motherwell and Hearts.

# O'Leary left out again

David O'Leary, the Arsenal defender, has been overlooked for the third time by the Republic of Ireland manager, Jack Charlton, in the squad for the European Championship qualifying match against Bulgaria in Sofia on April 1.

SQUAD: P. Bonner (Goalie), D. Langan (Lancaster), J. Whelan (Liverpool), P. McGrath (Manchester United), M. O'Connell (Liverpool), K. McNaughton (Manchester City), K. Morris (Manchester United), L. Brady (Newcastle), R. Houghton (Oxford), P. Sheehan (Manchester United), A. Galloway (Tottenham), J. Aldridge (Liverpool), N. Collins (Aston Villa), C. Hendon (Tottenham), J. Byrne (QPR), R. O'Brien (Manchester United), J. Sheehan (Aston Villa), J. Anderson (Newcastle).

# Decision delay

The Football League commission yesterday delayed its decision on Wolverhampton Wanderers' claim to a share of Wayne Clarke's transfer fee from Birmingham to Everton. Clarke originally moved from Wolverhampton Wanderers to Birmingham.

# FA put safety first with choice of semi-final venues

The black shadow of hooliganism yesterday fell across the draw for the semi-final of the FA Cup. The tie between Tottenham Hotspur and Watford would, in normal and safer circumstances, have been staged in the north of the capital in an arena that was convenient for both clubs and their followers.

Highbury, the home of Arsenal, would have been the most appropriate setting. Instead it is to be held more than 100 miles away in the Midlands, at Villa Park. An FA spokesman said that "we were faced with a difficult situation. We were looking not at one match but two."

He pointed out that "it would be far better for the replay, which would be a night match, to be played at a London ground rather than the other way around. The explanation suggests that the FA is using foresight, a characteristic for which the governing body is not renowned."

The inference, though it was not stated in so many words, was that the prospect of thousands of rival supporters travelling up in the same direction in the early evening and down again late at night in midweek was a cause for concern. On Saturdays the fear of hooliganism diminishes.

The effect of the neutral spectators might also have been considered. Those at Villa Park next month will be dispassionate. Since those at Arsenal, Tottenham's bitter rivals and their conquerors in the Littlewoods Cup, would be anything but, the FA will be praying that the contest finishes decisively on April 11.

FA secretary Ted Croker seemed to confirm this when he said: "Highbury has not got fencing and it is also so near to Tottenham. As for Chelsea the parking is not good and there are added crowd complications which we do not have at Villa."

Watford's box officer manager Roger Fleming was not in favour. "It's going to be a real headache organising the travel," he said. "The M1, with its roadworks, is bad enough as it is, without two sets of fans going up there."

The FA's decision to play for a win, as it were, would appear to belittle the plea uttered recently by the domestic authorities in Bern. If

there are indeed misgivings about the behaviour of supporters at home, why ask for the European ban on English clubs to be lifted?

It also seems to be significant that the other semi-final between Coventry City and Leeds United is to unfold at Hillsborough. The choice of Sheffield Wednesday's ground, rather than that of Old Trafford which is more equidistant for instance, has reduced the distance to be covered by the notorious followers of Leeds.

David Pleat, Tottenham's manager, was relieved to have avoided their presence. He admitted that if paired with

# Britain remains four nations

From David Miller, Zurich

membership as separate countries, with the voting rights at any FIFA congress, with their position within the International Board, and with the fielding of separate teams in any of FIFA's international competitions, including the four-yearly World Cup, the next of which is in 1990.

When the British associations reapplied for FIFA membership after the last war a special memorandum was drawn up in April 1946 at a meeting with FIFA representatives at Lancaster Gate in London. After this meeting the memorandum was submitted to the congress in July in Luxembourg, at which all the proposals were ratified.

"What the British associations have are not privileges but statutory rights acquired through congress," Mr Blatter said. "It is a principle of FIFA that where such decisions are taken they cannot be changed by subsequent proposals. Otherwise FIFA would have no stability. We could not, for example, change the decision

every few years about where the headquarters of FIFA should be. The British associations will retain their present position."

Before the congress met in Mexico last year there was a move by Guinea and other Third World countries to reduce Britain's voting power within FIFA but it was withdrawn when Joie Havasland promised that there would be a review of FIFA statutes. Mr Blatter stressed yesterday that this review did not necessarily mean a revision or a modification of the statutes. "Maybe they're good as they are," he said with a smile.

North Korea's refusal to play scheduled Olympic qualifying match against Malaysia yesterday in a triangular tournament in Kuala Lumpur has resulted in their disqualification. They refused to play because they considered themselves joint hosts of next year's Olympic Games and therefore entitled to automatic qualification.



Flatterer (Jonathan Sheppard) is put through his paces (Photograph: Stephen Markeson)

# Linley chosen to partner West Tip

Richard Linley was the surprise choice yesterday to ride West Tip, last year's Grand National winner, in the Tote Gold Cup at Cheltenham on Thursday. He replaces Richard Dunwoody, who partners Charter Party.

Linley only returned to race riding in January after suffering serious injuries in a road accident in 1985 in which his wife died. He made a triumphant return on Robin Goodfellow at Kempton, but since then he has enjoyed only occasional success.

Dunwoody has been West Tip's regular rider, which included last year's Aintree triumph, but a row broke out at the weekend when Dunwoody decided to ride Charter Party at Cheltenham for his boss, David Nicholson.

West Tip's trainer, Michael Oliver, accused Dunwoody of "lack of loyalty". He said yesterday: "Peter Luff, the owner of West Tip, readily agreed that Linley will ride the horse at Cheltenham and in the Grand National."

Oliver said that Linley will meet West Tip for the first time on Thursday. He added: "If all goes well at Cheltenham, I'll ask Linley to come over and watch some tapes so he can get to know the horse even better before the National."

Stearns, the second favourite, may miss Thursday's big race. His trainer Jenny Pitman said yesterday that the horse had a setback while schooling.

He unshipped Graham McCourt and has suffered a slight over-reach. But I am still hopeful that he will be 110 per cent on the day. The next 24 hours will be crucial," she said. "I think we've got a better than 50-50 chance. We will just have to treat the problem with patience and care."

Stearns, winner of the Welsh National this season, is currently quoted at 8-1 with the sponsors.

Galway Blaze will miss the Gold Cup. A spokesman for Nick Henderson's stable said: "Unfortunately, he is not ready and will be kept back for the Whitbread Trophy at Aintree."

Simon Barnes on Jenny Pitman, Page 35

Other racing, Pages 34 and 35

# Victory in court for show jumper

By Jenny MacArthur

Peter Charles, the international show jumper, can continue to ride Mr Cecil Williams's April Sun and Merrimandias until after next month's World Cup final in Paris after a high court order yesterday.

Under the terms of the order Charles will also receive commission on the sale of the two horses for which Mr Williams is seeking a figure of £500,000. The horses will be returned to Mr Williams for sale immediately after the final - for which Charles, currently lying thirteenth in the European League, looks certain to qualify.

The long-running dispute between Charles and Williams began last year when Williams announced his intention to sell the two horses. Charles, who like most show jumpers, has only a verbal contract with his owner, disputed the terms under which April Sun and Merrimandias - his only Grade A horses - had come to his yard.

Despite Charles's delight at yesterday's ruling it is a hollow triumph. His current standing in show jumping is due to his outstanding partnership with the nine-year-old April Sun on whom he has been a regular member of the British Nations Cup team and would have been a contender for the team for this year's European championships.

Lucinda Green, the former World champion, has been given special dispensation to run her best horse, Regal Realm, at next month's Badminton Horse Trials even though he has not qualified for the event at the time of entry.

Because of his exceptional record the Horse Trials committee - of which Mrs Green is a member - asked the Badminton committee if the horse could compete there providing it meets the qualifications at the time of starting as opposed to the time of entry.

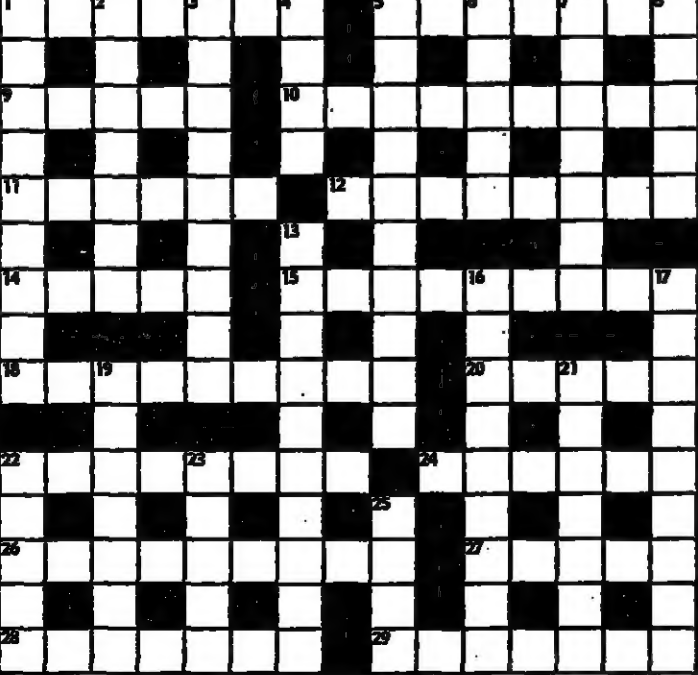
# Israelis say the ball is in India's court

Tel Aviv (Reuters) - The Israeli tennis team is ready to play India on neutral territory in the Davis Cup quarter-finals if they are denied visas by the Indians, the head of the Israeli Tennis Association said yesterday.

David Harnick said in a radio interview his side were not worried about the fixture because refusal to make on Israel either at home or on neutral ground would mean India's exclusion from the competition.

The Indian government, which does not have diplomatic relations with Israel, barred the Israeli table tennis team from the world championships in Delhi in February.

## The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,306



- ACROSS
- 1 Cargo packer has done time, they say (7).
  - 5 Pleiades at first, then the Plough, in the fable (7).
  - 9 Country dishes (5).
  - 10 He has a district to administer, he gathers (9).
  - 11 You have to be quick to draw this (6).
  - 12 Majestic, like the White Queen's kitchen (8).
  - 14 Bare teeth showing a sharp edge (5).
  - 15 One of the quarters, by George! No, by Tom! (4,5).
  - 18 Poison in the finger of an Arab (9).
  - 20 Drinks like fish (5).
  - 22 Sound 'iding place in Anouilh's drama (8).
  - 24 Organ showing malice (6).
  - 26 Suitable place for a 1 dn to sit? (9).
  - 27 No W Gorman city has these other points (5).
  - 28 The sort of noise made in crèches (7).
  - 29 The shine is off if the Oval's first 50 becomes a century (7).
- DOWN
- 1 Bird table where waders not wanted (4-5).
  - 2 Poor Venetian's endless simplicity (7).
  - 3 Accommodation for servants in an equal race (9).
  - 4 Behold I Zingar, for example, in the middle of Greece! (4).
  - 5 To rub out on this MS was perhaps simple in the past (10).
  - 6 Pass rope through the beak once (5).
  - 7 Recall little woman in kindergarten originally (7).
  - 8 Join Everest leader on desolate climb (5).
  - 13 Ugly ball he hit for six, showing profound amusement (5-5).
  - 16 Left a large fortune, TUC is in healthy state (3,2,4).
  - 17 Continuing noise about boy getting the cane wrongly (9).
  - 19 Market gardener keeps a pound for the cub (7).
  - 21 Urge to take up exercise (5-2).
  - 22 Barometer for schooner (5).
  - 23 First person to take legal action about second edition (5).
  - 25 Flower spike, say (4).

## WEATHER

General situation: A deep depression will drift slowly east near northern Scotland. It will be a fairly cloudy, breezy day generally with showery outbreaks of rain, but a good deal of dry weather as well. Brighter intervals are also likely in some districts. Temperatures will be well up to normal in many areas at first, but it will turn colder in the north during the day, with some snow in the showers there later. Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Cold, windy and showery with snow at times in many areas, especially in the north.

## ABROAD

	C	F		C	F
Algeria	12	54	Madrid	12	52
Alexandria	13	55	Moscow	11	52
Amman	13	55	Paris	11	52
Algiers	13	55	Seville	11	52
Amman	13	55	Stockholm	11	52
Amman	13	55	Toronto	11	52
Amman	13	55	Washington	11	52
Amman	13	55	Wellington	11	52
Amman	13	55	Yokohama	11	52
Amman	13	55			

## AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun	Rain	Max
London	12	54	12
Edinburgh	12	54	12
Belfast	12	54	12
Cardiff	12	54	12
Manchester	12	54	12
Nottingham	12	54	12
Sheffield	12	54	12
Southampton	12	54	12
Swansea	12	54	12
Torquay	12	54	12

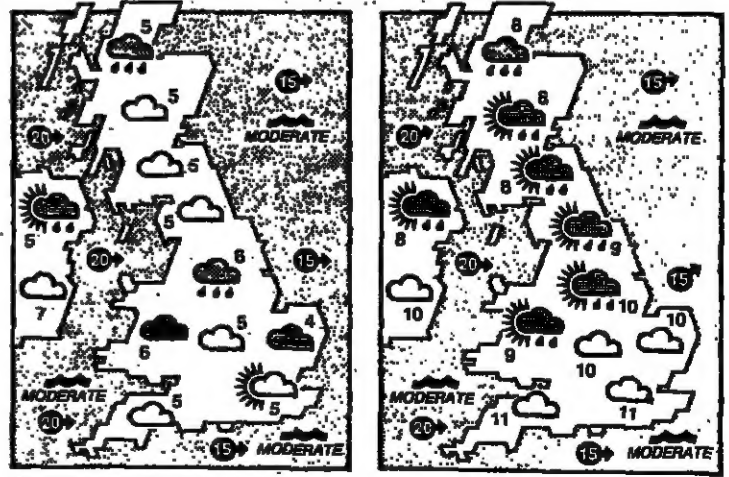
## HIGH TIDES

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London	2.35	7.2	3.15	7.3
Edinburgh	2.35	7.2	3.15	7.3
Belfast	2.35	7.2	3.15	7.3
Cardiff	2.35	7.2	3.15	7.3
Manchester	2.35	7.2	3.15	7.3
Nottingham	2.35	7.2	3.15	7.3
Sheffield	2.35	7.2	3.15	7.3
Southampton	2.35	7.2	3.15	7.3
Swansea	2.35	7.2	3.15	7.3
Torquay	2.35	7.2	3.15	7.3

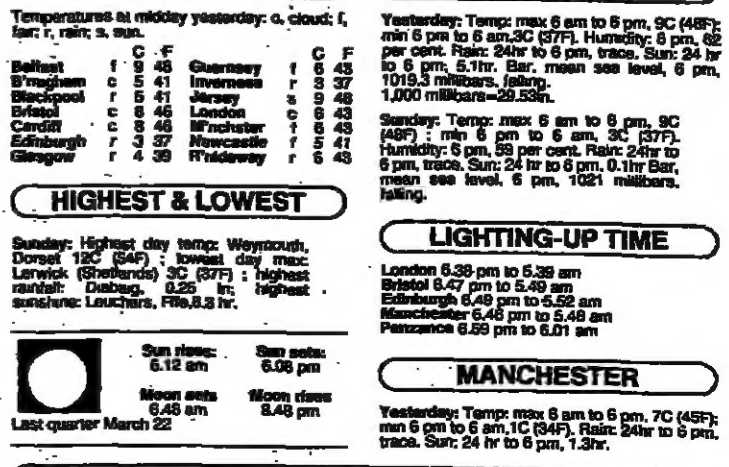
## THE POUND

	Bank	Rate
Australia	1.50	2.30
Canada	1.25	2.30
France	6.55	2.30
Germany	2.36	2.30
Italy	1.36	2.30
Japan	1.63	2.30
Netherlands	2.36	2.30
Sweden	2.36	2.30
Switzerland	2.36	2.30
USA	1.00	2.30

## AM



## PM



## YESTERDAY

	C	F		C	F
Belfast	9	48	Cardiff	9	48
Birmingham	9	48	Edinburgh	9	48
Bristol	9	48	London	9	48
Cardiff	9	48	Manchester	9	48
Edinburgh	9	48	Nottingham	9	48
London	9	48	Sheffield	9	48
Manchester	9	48	Southampton	9	48
Nottingham	9	48	Swansea	9	48
Sheffield	9	48	Torquay	9	48

## MANCHESTER

Manchester: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 1C (34F). Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.3hr.